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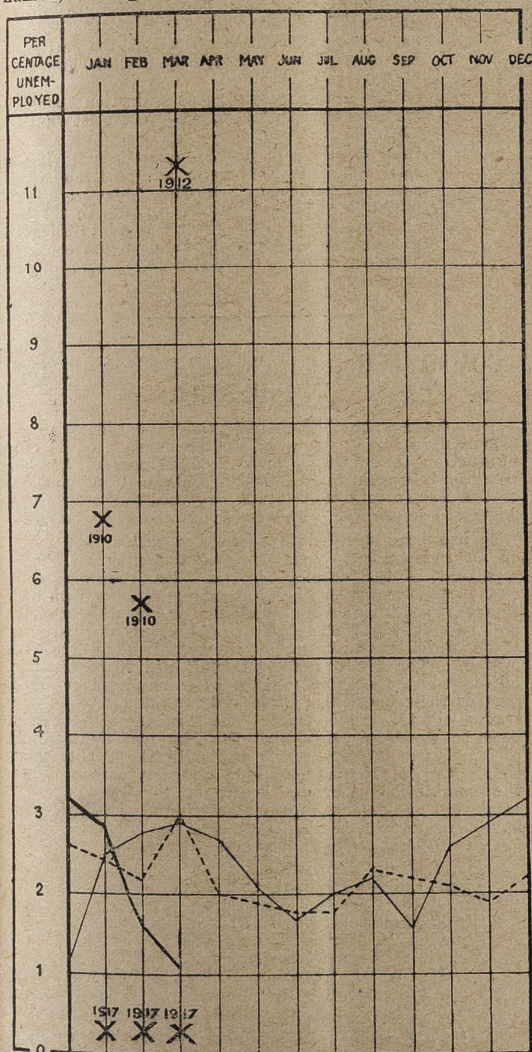
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1920. — Thin Curve = 1919
- - - Dotted Curve = Mean of 1910-19.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1910-19.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Ministry of Labour by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked out, sick, or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

EMPLOYMENT, DISPUTES, WAGES AND PRICES IN MARCH.

Employment.—In most of the principal industries employment was good in March and better, on the whole, than in February. The percentage unemployed fell during the month from 4.4 to 3.6 among workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in industries covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts and from 1.6 to 1.1 among the members of certain trade unions (mainly of skilled workmen) from which statistics are obtained. The number of men and women on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges at 1st April was 337,854, a decrease of 66,071 on a month earlier. The decreases were largely due to the improvement in the engineering trades, following upon the recovery from the effects of the recent dispute at the iron foundries.

At coal mines and in the metal industries employment was good on the whole. In the textile trades employment was good generally, except in the Irish linen trade, and in the clothing trades it was, on the whole, fairly good. Workpeople in the brick, cement, pottery, glass, building, wood-working, paper and printing trades continued well employed. Skilled agricultural workers were in demand. With fishermen employment was good generally, but with seamen it was only moderate; with dock and riverside labourers the state of employment varied greatly at different ports.

Trade Disputes.—The number of trade disputes beginning in March was 184. In addition 58 disputes which began before March were still in progress at the beginning of the month. The total number of workpeople directly or indirectly involved in all these disputes, new or old, was about 134,000, as compared with about 110,000 in the previous month, and about 223,000 in March, 1919. The estimated aggregate duration of all trade disputes during the month was about 788,000 days, as compared with 450,000 days in February, 1920, and 1,139,000 days in March, 1919.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour.

The changes in rates of wages reported to the Department as having been arranged to come into operation in March, with effect from that month or from earlier dates, resulted in a net increase of over £100,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 340,000 workpeople. The principal increases affected tramway employees and workpeople in the paper-making, coachbuilding, flour milling, and leather-producing industries. Changes in hours of labour arranged during March affected about 61,000 workpeople, whose hours were reduced by an average of about 6 per week. The principal changes occurred in the jute and lace industries.

Retail Prices and Rents.—The general level of retail prices, taking into account food, clothing, fuel and light, etc., as well as rents, at 1st April was about 132 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, assuming the same quantities and, so far as possible, the same qualities of each article purchased at the present time as before the War.

REPORT OF TRANSPORT WORKERS' COURT OF INQUIRY.

The Report of the Court of Inquiry appointed by the Minister of Labour to inquire into the wages and conditions of employment of dock labour was issued on the 31st March. The Court held 20 public sittings and examined 53 witnesses. The Report deals only with the claim for a minimum for day-workers and piece-workers of 16s. a day, and is therefore an Interim Report, but the hope is expressed that the remaining questions regarding overtime, shift-work, night-work, etc., will be settled by the parties themselves, in which case the Report will be a final one.

The Court has also dealt with the questions of output and casual labour as bearing directly on the claim for a minimum wage. There are two Reports—a Majority Report, signed by Lord Shaw, Sir Lionel Fletcher, and Messrs. H. Gosling, A. Pugh, J. Smethurst (subject to reservations), B. Tillett and R. Williams; and a Minority Report, signed by Sir Joseph G. Broodbank and Mr. F. Scrutton. The main recommendations of the Majority Report are as follows:—

- (1) That, with a view to establishing a national minimum standard, the minimum for day-workers and piece-workers shall be 16s. per day on the basis of the national agreement for the 44-hour week. The minimum of 16s. is to apply to the workers at all the greater ports, and the authorities are to draw up a schedule of the smaller ports which are to be treated as exceptions to the application of a standard minimum.
- (2) That a system of registration of dock labour should be introduced into all the ports, docks and harbours of the Kingdom. The system now in operation at Liverpool and that recommended for London by Mr. Justice Roche's Committee indicate the lines on which registration should proceed.
- (3) That the principle of maintenance of unemployed casual labour is approved.
- (4) That the wages of dock labour should be paid weekly, and that this system should be introduced at the earliest possible date.
- (5) That the constitution of a National Joint Council and its correlative local bodies should be undertaken for the dock labour industry on the lines of the Report of the Whitley Committee.
- (6) That these bodies should, failing agreement by the parties, be charged with the settlement of incidental matters mentioned in the Report and the remaining items of claim.

In addition to the above recommendations, direct labour representation on the governing bodies of Port Authorities is recommended in principle, and the Joint Industrial Council is asked to consider the extension of the system of payment by results.

Government Departments, Employers, and Port Authorities and the dockers themselves are blamed for the loss of output. It is found that the agreed eight-hour day has been broken by the men, and the Majority Report estimates that 25 per cent. of the number of men employed lose one hour per day through bad time-keeping; also among a minority of the men there is a deliberate policy of slowing down of output. The system of casualisation is stated to be wrong and must be up-rooted, the only issue being as to the means to be adopted of readily providing labour while avoiding cruel and unsocial conditions. If effect is given to the recommendations of the Report, the Government is asked to give immediate facilities for the enactment of any necessary alterations in the statutory powers of Port and Harbour Authorities. Other matters dealt with in the Report include: Cost of living and family budgets; alleged effect of the claim, if granted, on other industries; absence of confidence between employers and employed; labour-saving machinery and foreign rivalry.

Mr. Smethurst signs the Report subject to the following reservations:—

- (1) That he cannot agree to the recommendation that a minimum daily wage should be granted, but he is in favour of recommending a substantial percentage advance on earnings.
- (2) That wherever practicable piece-rate working should be established.

The Minority Report agrees, subject to certain conditions, with the recommendations of the majority with regard to registration, maintenance and weekly pay, but considers that the questions of setting up a Joint Industrial Council and of direct labour representation on governing port bodies are outside the scope of the Inquiry.

With regard to the majority recommendation of a daily minimum of 16s., the minority do not assent to the proposal to establish a national minimum rate, and object to the amount at which it is proposed this rate should be fixed. The reasons for disagreeing with the majority on the question of the minimum wage are stated as follows:—

- (1) To raise the pay to 16s. a day would make it nearly three and a half times more than it was before the war.
- (2) If 16s. a day were conceded to the lowest-paid workers, corresponding increases would be claimed by all the higher grades of dock workers.
- (3) The cost of admitting the claim of 16s. a day would be not less than £15,000,000 per annum.
- (4) The disturbing effect on the national settlement of railway wages.
- (5) To increase the minimum pay of dockers by 23s. 10d. per week would raise it beyond the level of many grades of skilled workmen, and would lead to such workmen throughout the Kingdom agitating for corresponding increases in their wages. Such an advance of 23s. 10d. a week to the 12,000,000 workers in the Kingdom would entail an addition of £750,000,000 to the annual national wage bill and the cost of commodities.
- (6) Three-fourths of the dockers are the employees of public authorities, and any extra charges would have to be passed on to the community.
- (7) The inimical effect of increased charges on the international trade of the country.

The following suggestions are made in the Minority Report for dealing with the present situation:—

- (1) An immediate increase in present rates of wages—the previous method of agreeing to the amount of such increase being followed.
- (2) A scheme of maintenance to be jointly considered at once, and after its effect on the ordinary rates of pay has been estimated, the parties, by agreement, should fix permanent standing rates of pay.
- (3) Pending such agreement, no reduction should be made in the rates of pay before the 1st January, 1921.
- (4) Better output will not be secured by giving an all-round increase of wages irrespective of results actually achieved. Existing piece-work rates might be increased in many cases, in the hope of encouraging better results, and to safeguard piece-workers, no reduction of wages should be made unless some radical change of working has occurred.

COMMITTEE ON INCREASED PRODUCTION IN INDUSTRY.

The Government have had under consideration the urgent need for an enquiry into the question of increased production in industry, and in the House of Commons recently it was intimated by Sir Robert Horne on behalf of the Government that it was proposed to set up a Committee to enquire into and report on the whole matter.

It has been decided that the Committee shall consist of an independent chairman and a permanent nucleus composed of two employers, two labour representatives, and two Government representatives, together with additional representatives appointed, two by the employers and two by the workpeople, to represent any particular trade which may be under consideration by the Committee. The trade representatives will leave the Committee when the enquiry has been completed so far as regards their particular trade and representatives of other trades will take their place. The Ministry of Labour has been in communication with the National Confederation of Employers' Organisations and with the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress with a view to the nomination of these bodies of the two permanent employers and labour representatives and the Government have now appointed the Committee as follows:—

- Sir Stephenson Kent, K.C.B. (Chairman).
Mr. I. Haig Mitchell.
Lieut.-Colonel D. Paul, C.M.G.
Mr. A. A. Purcell.
Sir Thomas Robinson, M.P.
Sir Allan M. Smith, K.B.E., M.P.
Mr. G. H. Stuart-Bunning, J.P., O.B.E.
Mr. W. H. Reynolds, M.B.E., Ministry of Labour (Secretary).

The terms of reference to the Committee are:—

"To consider and advise as to the best means of securing the greatest possible production consistent with the permanent well-being of industry and of the employers and the workpeople engaged therein."

The Committee held their first meeting at Montagu House on 14th April.

Any communication in regard to the Committee should be addressed to the Secretary of the Committee at Montagu House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

PROFIT-SHARING IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

A Report on "Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership in the United Kingdom," prepared by the Ministry of Labour, has been published by H.M. Stationery Office.

The terms "Profit-sharing" and "Labour Co-partnership," particularly the former, are often used in a very loose sense; and, accordingly, a section of the Report is devoted to the definition and interpretation of these terms. "Profit-sharing" is explained to involve an agreement between an employer and his employees whereby the latter receive, in addition to their wages or salaries, a share, fixed beforehand, in the profits of the undertaking.

For the term "Labour Co-partnership" the definition adopted by the Labour Co-partnership Association is quoted. Briefly, the definition involves, in addition to ordinary Profit-sharing, (i) the possession of shares in the undertaking by which the workman is employed, and (ii) the establishment of a Co-partnership Committee of workers, having a voice in the internal management of the undertaking.

Attention should be called to the prominent position which has come to be occupied by the Co-partnership Committee in many schemes. Detailed particulars are given of the Co-partnership Committee of the South Metropolitan Gas Company, which was established 30 years ago, and is, in the words of its Chairman, "a small-scale Parliament of Labour, with business-like habits."

The number of schemes which were in existence at the 31st October, 1919, so far as reported to the Ministry of Labour, was 182, and the number of persons employed by the firms having these schemes was about a quarter of a million. These 182 schemes were the survivors of 380 schemes which had been started at one time or another since the year 1865, with an isolated example in 1829.

The following statement classifies the schemes according to date of adoption, and shows how many of them are still in existence:—

Period during which Started.	Total Number of Schemes started in Period.	Schemes now in Existence.	
		Number.	Per cent. of Total started.
Up to 1870	20	3	15
1871-1880	18	5	28
1881-1890	79	14	18
1891-1900	77	14	18
1901-1910	80	51	64
1911-1919	77	66	86
1919 (ten months)	29	29	100
TOTAL	390	182	48

It will be seen that only 36 of the existing schemes, or one in five of the total number, date back before the year 1901; and that 95, or rather more than half, date from 1911 or some later year. The average duration of the existing schemes (excluding those started during the year 1919) is about fourteen years.

The greatest activity in the formation of profit-sharing schemes was shown in the four years from 1889 to 1892.

On the other hand, the whole period between 1893 and 1907 was a period of stagnation. The profit-sharing movement is, in fact, marked by a succession of violent fluctuations. A movement in favour of Profit-sharing is started, and for two, three or four years it continues with great energy; then the impetus dies down, and the movement is quiescent, sometimes for a long period of years.

The Report contains an analysis of the causes which have led to the abandonment of the various schemes which have ceased to exist. In a large number of cases, the abandonment is stated to have been due to the inability of the firm to earn sufficient profits to make Profit-sharing a success, or to some other cause independent of the Profit-sharing scheme, rather than to any defects inherent in the system itself; but in 91 cases (out of 198) the lack of success is attributed to the dissatisfaction of the employers or of the employees, or to similar causes.

The longest section of the Report consists of a detailed account of a large number of existing schemes, some long-established and some recent, and of very various types.

The gas industry is the only one that has adopted Profit-sharing (or Co-partnership) on anything approaching a national scale. In all other groups of industries it is only a very small minority of firms that have adopted the system.

The pecuniary results of Profit-sharing, as tested by the amount of bonus paid, are, in many cases, not inconsiderable. Putting together the results of all the schemes it would appear that, while in every year a certain number of firms are unable to pay any bonus at

all, the average bonus over a long series of years may be put at about 5 or 6 per cent., the equivalent of two or three weeks' wages.

The following Table summarises the distributions of bonus in 1918 so far as the particulars can be given. (No particulars are available as to the bonus paid in a number of schemes):—

Ratio of Bonus to Wages.	No. of Schemes to which the Particulars relate.	Total No. of Employees.	No. of Participants.	Amount of Bonus.
Nil	17	32,660	"	£
Under 1 per cent.	6	2,873	2,248	1,796
1 and under 2 per cent.	6	13,348	9,734	20,051
2 " " 3 " " "	9	783	590	1,389
3 " " 4 " " "	9	1,657	1,246	3,376
4 " " 5 " " "	3	394	224	771
5 " " 6 " " "	2	596	401	2,032
6 " " 8 " " "	8	3,187	2,656	14,800
8 " " 10 " " "	7	6,759	1,896	20,622
10 " " 12 " " "	7	4,294	2,817	26,804
12 " " 16 " " "	9	8,383	8,093	76,931
16 " " 20 " " "	2	1,503	1,001	15,859
Over 20 per cent.	8	5,833	4,427	77,448
TOTAL	93	83,210	35,153	262,476

The average ratio of bonus to wages, taking into account both the number who actually participated and the number who would have been entitled to participate, in the cases where the bonus was nil, was 5.1 per cent.

The figures given in the Table relate to those schemes only in which the ratio of bonus to wages can be given. The amount of bonus is known in twelve other cases. The total amount of bonus paid in 1918 in these 105 schemes was £299,728; it was paid to 52,056 participants (excluding those entitled to participate in cases where the bonus was nil, who numbered 29,777).

The large number of workpeople entitled to participate in 1918, but who did not receive any bonus on account of a deficiency in profits, is accounted for principally by the exceptional effect of the war upon (1) gas companies and (2) a large life insurance company.

The Report contains a section dealing with profit-sharing and co-partnership in co-operative societies. In an introductory section an attempt is made to trace, in outline, the inter-action of the two branches, with somewhat divergent ideals, which have been at work in the co-operative movement—viz., (1) the "consumers' societies, exemplified in the familiar co-operative stores, and in the great wholesale societies, which are carried on primarily in the interests of the consumers, as such; and (2) the "productive associations of workers," which held out as their ideal the co-operative ownership of the instruments of production by the producers, who were to divide the profits among themselves. In the co-operative movement, as it has in fact developed in this country, the first-named influence—"consumers' co-operation"—has become greatly predominant; and on this side of the co-operative movement profit-sharing shows a marked decline in recent years. In the "productive associations of workers," on the other hand, profit-sharing may be said to be holding its own; and in these associations there is often also, as one would expect, a strong element of co-partnership—that is to say, the employees often have a substantial share in the management of the business, such as they rarely have in the "store" societies.

The Report contains an Appendix giving the rules of a number of schemes of profit-sharing or co-partnership. The rules reproduced in the Report have been chosen so as to present a variety of different types, in order that employers who may be thinking of introducing a scheme may have a wide choice.

JOINT INDUSTRIAL COUNCILS.

In the article on page 120 of the LABOUR GAZETTE for March, the second paragraph in the second column should read as follows:

Electrical Cable-making Industry.—As a result of claims submitted by certain Trade Unions on behalf of the women workers, the Joint Industrial Council have defined occupations of women in the industry, and they have fixed wages as follows: Grade 1, 41s. per week; Grade 2, 43s. per week; Grade 3, 45s. per week. The grading of occupations not included in the Women's schedule will be the same as the grading in the Men's schedule where the occupation is included therein. The wages paid will be those applicable to the grading thus arising, as though it were in the Men's schedule.

For example, if a woman is engaged on Grade 2 (Men's schedule) she will receive 43s. per week, irrespective of what the men's wages would have been.

* The number entitled to participate in these 17 firms was 29,777.

THE RISE IN RATES OF WAGES SINCE JULY, 1914.

IN THE LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1919, an account was given of the increase in rates of wages in the principal industries of the United Kingdom since the outbreak of the war, in which it was shown that at the end of April, 1919, the increases in weekly rates of wages ranged, in different cases, from less than 60 per cent. to over 150 per cent. on pre-war rates. The average increase was estimated at between 100 and 120 per cent. Since that date, there have been further increases in wages in almost all industries and the particulars previously published have now been revised, so far as possible, to show the total increase from July, 1914, to the end of February, 1920. A summary of these increases is given below for the principal groups of industries.

It may be observed that general increases have been granted in some industries, and are being arranged in others, to take effect at various dates from March onwards. As negotiations are still proceeding in some of these cases, and it is possible that some of the increases arranged may be made retrospective to the beginning of March, it has been thought desirable that the particulars given should relate generally to the position at the end of February, 1920; but the further general changes already arranged have been noted below, in the paragraphs dealing with the principal industries, so far as details are available.

BUILDING TRADES.

The increases in the building trades have varied considerably in different districts. In the large towns the advances between July, 1914, and the end of February, 1920, mostly ranged from 11d. to 1s. 2d. per hour. These amounts, however, include advances granted, in many cases, concurrently with reductions in weekly hours of labour, with the object of maintaining the weekly wages at the former level. For the principal classes of workmen in towns with populations over 100,000 the average increases in hourly and in weekly rates, taking into account in the latter case the effect of the reductions in hours of labour, were as shown in the following Table.

Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised rates of wages in large towns at:		Increase.	
	4th Aug., 1914.	29th Feb., 1920.	Amount.	Per cent.
HOURLY RATES.				
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Bricklayers	9 9	22 0	12 1	123
Masons*	9 8	22 1	12 3	126
Carpenters and Joiners ..	9 7	22 0	12 3	126
Plumbers	9 6	22 3	12 7	132
Plasterers	9 7	22 0	12 3	126
Painters	8 8	21 5	12 7	144
Labourers	6 5	18 5	12 0	184
WEEKLY RATES.				
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Bricklayers	40 7	83 7	43 0	106
Masons*	39 8	83 9	44 1	111
Carpenters and Joiners ..	39 11	83 5	43 6	109
Plumbers	39 9	83 9	44 0	111
Plasterers	40 2	83 9	43 7	109
Painters	36 3	81 5	45 2	124
Labourers	26 11	70 3	43 4	161

The weekly rates shown have been computed by multiplying the average rates per hour by the number of hours constituting a full week at the two dates, the summer and the winter hours being averaged for this purpose. These hours averaged rather more than 49 in 1914, the averages for the several classes ranging from 48½ for masons to over 49½ for plumbers. They now average about 45½ and range from a little over 45 for plumbers to nearly 45½ for plasterers.

If the increases shown are combined on the basis of the relative numbers of men employed in the different occupations, the resulting general average increase in hourly rates is about 1s. 0½d., or about 155 per cent., and in weekly wages (taking into account the effect of the reductions in working time) it is about 44s., or about 135 per cent. There is little difference in the amounts of increase for different classes of men; but owing to the differences in their pre-war rates, the percentage increases are much greater with labourers than with skilled men, the average increase in weekly wages being equivalent to 161 per cent. for labourers, compared with 124 per cent. for painters, and with 106 to 111 per cent. for other classes of skilled men.

MINING AND QUARRYING.

Coal Mining.—In the coal mining industry, the increases in wages since July, 1914, have taken the form partly of percentage increases, varying in different coal-fields from

28 per cent. up to 47 per cent. on pre-war rates, and partly of flat-rate additions amounting to 5s. a day for workpeople over 16 years, and to 2s. 6d. a day for those under that age. In some cases further increases have been granted to particular classes of men; e.g. for some classes the basis rates of wages have been raised, and in South Wales men on afternoon and night shifts (most of whom had a working week of 5 shifts) were granted, in 1915, payment as for an extra shift each week. The working time has also been shortened, the maximum hours fixed for underground workers under the Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1908 having been reduced from 8 to 7 per day in 1919, and the working week of surface workers having been reduced to 49 hours, as from January, 1919, and to 46½ from July, 1919. The weekly wages of time workers remained unchanged when these reductions in hours were made, and piece rates were increased so as to yield the same weekly earnings as before.

As a result of the combination of percentage increases with flat-rate additions to wages, the total increase, whether expressed in terms of money or as a percentage of pre-war rates, varies considerably with different classes of workpeople. In the light of the evidence as to the earnings of coal miners, which was presented in 1919 to the Coal Industry Commission,* it would appear that the increases in wages, referred to above, represent varying additions to pre-war wages, ranging from less than 100 per cent. in the case of some of the higher paid workmen up to considerably over 150 per cent. in the case of some of the lower paid grades. The average increase is estimated to be about 120 to 125 per cent. These figures relate to the end of February last, and do not take account of the further general increase which has recently been offered by the Government to the coal miners.

Other Mining and Quarrying.—Iron miners in Cleveland and limestone quarries in Durham had received increases, between July, 1914, and the end of February, 1920, equivalent to 58 per cent. on their pre-war rates, together with flat-rate additions of 5s. per shift for men, and 2s. 6d. for boys, as granted to the coal miners. In Lincolnshire the wages of ironstone miners were increased by 145 per cent. on pre-war rates, with an additional flat-rate advance of 1s. 1d. per shift. In Cumberland the bargain price for iron ore miners were raised from about 6s. 3d. to 18s. 9d. per shift, and the shift rate for underground leading labourers from 4s. 9d. to 10s. 9d.; in Ayrshire ironstone miners received an advance of 8s. a day. For each of these groups the percentage increase on pre-war wages appears to have been greater, on the whole, than that quoted above for coal miners, though the actual increase in money wages may not in some cases be so great, in view of the differences in the pre-war earnings, to which the percentages apply. On the other hand, the increases at some other groups of mines and quarries have been less than those granted to the coal miners.

ENGINEERING, SHIPBUILDING AND OTHER METAL TRADES.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In these industries general advances over pre-war rates have been granted, amounting, up to the end of February last, to 33s. 6d. a week for men on time-rates, together with a bonus of 12½ per cent. on total earnings. In some districts, where the men are paid at hourly rates, the advance was 34s. 4½d. instead of 33s. 6d. For men on piece-work the general advances amounted to 26s. 6d. per week, together with 10 per cent. on pre-war piece prices and a bonus of 7½ per cent. on total earnings. In certain cases further advances, both on time-rates and on piece-rates, had been granted for special reasons to particular classes of men.

The following Table shows the average amount of increase (inclusive of bonus) granted from 4th August, 1914, up to the end of February, 1920, on the district time-rates of wages for men in certain representative occupations in 16 of the principal engineering centres and 13 of the principal shipbuilding centres, together with the equivalent percentage increases over pre-war rates. The figures are based on the wages for a full ordinary week, the length of which in 1914 was 53 hours in some districts and 54 in others, and is now 47 hours.

Occupation.	Average (unweighted) of recognised Weekly Time Rates in the principal centres.		Increase.	
	4th Aug., 1914.	29th Feb., 1920.†	Per week.	Per cent.
Engineering:—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Fitters and Turners ..	38 11	82 5	43 6	112
Ironmoulders	41 8	85 6	43 10	105
Patternmakers	42 1	88 8	44 7	106
Labourers	22 10	63 11	41 1	180
Shipbuilding:—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
Platers	40 4	83 4	43 0	107
Rivetters	37 9	80 5	42 8	113
Shipwrights	41 4	84 6	43 2	105
Labourers	22 10	63 7	40 9	178

* Vide Volume III (Appendices, &c.) of the Report of the Commission Cmd. 361.

† The figures given for February 1920, include the 12½ per cent. bonus on total earnings.

For skilled men on time-rates the average increase appears to have been about 110 per cent., whilst for labourers it was about 180 per cent. For semi-skilled classes the percentages would range between these two points.

It has recently been arranged that further general increases in the engineering, foundry, shipbuilding and ship-repairing trades, of 6s. per week or 1½d. per hour to men on time work and of 15 per cent. to piece workers, shall operate in two equal instalments in April and June.

Other Metal Trades.—The general increases granted in the engineering and shipbuilding trades have been extended to a large number of workpeople in other metal trades, including the manufacture of iron castings, railway carriage and wagon building, sheet metal working, gas meter making, heating and domestic engineering, bolt, nut, screw and rivet making, and tube manufacture. In some other branches, however, different amounts have been given. Workpeople employed in the heavy iron and steel trades (smelting, puddling, rolling, forging, &c.) have received increases varying in different occupations and districts from about 100 per cent. to over 200 per cent. on pre-war rates. In the tinplate trade in South Wales increases ranging from 115 per cent. on earnings of over 130s. per week up to 180 per cent. on earnings of 20s. to 30s. have been granted. As regards those sections of the metal trades in which minimum rates of wages are fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, the minimum rate for women in the chainmaking trade had been raised from 2½d. per hour at August, 1914, to 7½d. per hour by the end of February, 1920, in cases where the employer provides the workshop, tools and fuel, and to 10d. per hour when the worker provides any or all of these. In the hollow-ware trade a minimum rate of 3d. per hour fixed for women in January, 1916, had been raised to 30s. 9d. per week of 47 hours; and in the tin box trade a minimum rate of 3½d. per hour for women, fixed in November, 1915, had been raised to 7½d. per hour.

TEXTILE TRADES.

Cotton.—For workpeople engaged in the cotton industry the changes in rates of wages generally take the form of percentage additions to standard piece-price lists. In July, 1914, wages stood at 5 per cent. above the standard piece prices, and by the end of February, 1920, they had been raised to 145 per cent. above the standard. Of this increase of 140 per cent. on list prices, however, 30 per cent. was granted in 1919 concurrently with a reduction in weekly working hours from 55½ to 48, in order to maintain weekly wages at the same level as before. Apart from this adjustment, wages have been raised by 110 per cent. on the list prices, or about 105 per cent. on the pre-war level. In addition, allowances have been granted to certain classes of operatives, e.g., strippers and grinders, and spinners, the effect of which would be to augment slightly the increase of 105 per cent. resulting from the general alterations in wages. During the early months of the present year flat rate bonuses, varying from £4 to £9 for adult men, with smaller amounts for other classes of workers, have been granted in monthly instalments, the first payments having been made in January of this year, and negotiations are now in progress with a view to a further general advance in wage rates.

Woolen and Worsted.—For most classes of woollen and worsted trade operatives in Yorkshire rates of wages rise or fall in correspondence with fluctuations in the "cost of living" as measured by the index number of retail prices and rents published in this Gazette. General increases in basis rates have also been given. For time-workers in both the spinning and manufacturing sections the general "cost of living" increase up to the end of February was 125 per cent. on basis rates, with a maximum of 37s. 6d. a week; for male piece-workers it was generally 100 per cent. and for female piece-workers 106½ per cent., though different amounts had been granted to certain small sections of workpeople, e.g., blanket raisers. The increase in basis rates granted in addition to the foregoing percentages was 10 per cent. for workpeople in the woollen spinning and woollen and worsted weaving sections. This addition is not taken into account in calculating the "cost of living" wage. In the worsted spinning section the basis rates have been correspondingly increased, though not by a uniform percentage. In the woolcombing industry at Bradford the workpeople have received an increase of 125 per cent. and increases on basis rates. In addition to the increases referred to above, a general advance of over 15 per cent. on hourly and piece-rates was granted in March, 1919, concurrently with a reduction in weekly hours from 55½ to 48, in order to maintain weekly wages at the same level as before.

Other Textile Trades.—In the bleaching, dyeing, printing and finishing sections also, wages are varied in accordance with the fluctuations in cost of living. In Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire and Scotland the increases over pre-war rates at the end of February were 37s. 10d. per week for men and 22s. 6d. per week for women, with certain additions to basis rates. In Yorkshire the increase for time-workers was 125 per cent. on basis rates, which have also been increased by 8 per cent.; for piece-workers it was 100 per cent. on basis rates, increased by 5 per cent. In

these trades also the weekly hours of labour have been reduced to 48 without any reduction in weekly wages. Amongst other bodies of textile operatives, workpeople in the linen industry in Ireland had received advances equivalent to 25s. for a full week in the case of men, and of 18s. a week in the case of women, but much short-time is being worked in this industry. Workpeople engaged in the manufacture of carpets had received 110 per cent. on pre-war time-rates and 105 per cent. on pre-war piece-rates, excluding 15 per cent. granted in compensation for a reduction in hours; hosiery workers in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire had received a war bonus of 6½d. in the shilling (54 per cent.) on their earnings, and, in addition, 10s. per week to men and 6s. per week to women; and at Dundee men in the jute trade had a minimum advance of 29s. a week and women one of 21s. a week, plus a full-time bonus of 2s. a week in each case.

CLOTHING TRADES.

In the wholesale boot and shoe manufacturing industry the minimum rate for clickers, lasters and finishers at July, 1914, was 29s. per week in some of the principal centres, and 30s. per week in others, whereas at the end of February last it was 56s. per week. This represents an increase of about 87 to 95 per cent. For piece-workers new price lists have been adopted, resulting in additional increases. It has recently been arranged that the minimum rate of 56s. shall be raised to 68s. per week in April, with certain increases on piece-rates.

In the dressmaking and millinery trades varying amounts of increases have been given. In the tailoring trades the minimum for women fixed under the Trade Boards Acts was raised from 3½d. per hour in July, 1914, to 8½d. per hour at the end of February, 1920, whilst for men it was raised from 6d. to 1s. 1d. For some classes of workers higher minima have been fixed.

TRANSPORT TRADES.

Railway Service.—As from 1st January, 1920, revised scales of wages were put into force for the principal grades of workpeople in the traffic sections, except signalmen, engine drivers, firemen and cleaners, based on an addition of 38s. per week (for adult workmen) to the pre-war average rate of each grade. Signalmen have received flat rate increases amounting, at the end of February, to 38s. per week. For engine drivers, firemen and cleaners, revised scales were adopted in August, 1919, resulting in varying increases for workpeople of different age or service, and the rates so fixed have recently been increased by 1s. a week as from 1st November, 1919, by 2s. a week as from 1st December, 1919, and by 3s. a week as from 1st March, 1920. Railway shopmen have received increases corresponding to the general advances granted in the engineering trade and are to receive the further advances recently awarded to engineers by the Industrial Court. The general increase of 38s. for traffic men has recently been increased to 39s. with effect as from 1st April.

Dock labourers at the principal ports had mostly received advances amounting, up to the end of February last, to about 6s. to 8s. per day. For seamen the cash rates for able seamen and firemen, which were usually £5 and £5 10s. per month, respectively, in the first half of 1914, had been raised to £11 10s. for able seamen and £12 for firemen. In addition to these rates a special war-risk bonus, amounting to £3 per month in the case of vessels on monthly articles, was granted in October, 1918, to men on vessels trading within the war zone, and is still in force. In the carting industry, and in the tramway and omnibus services, a general advance of 34s. per week over pre-war rates had been granted up to the end of February; further advances have recently been arranged for tramway-men and carters, to have effect as from March and April, respectively.

In addition to these increases in wages, a shorter working week has been adopted, generally of 44 hours for dock labourers and 48 hours for railwaymen, carters, tramway and omnibus servants, etc., without any reduction in weekly wages.

AGRICULTURE.

Under the provisions of the Corn Production Act, 1917, minimum rates of wages have been fixed for agricultural labourers in the United Kingdom. For ordinary agricultural labourers in England and Wales the minimum rates, in February last, ranged from 36s. 6d. to 42s. 6d. for ordinary adult labourers, with higher rates, in some cases, for special classes of men. In Scotland, the minima ranged from 30s. to 42s., and in Ireland from 22s. to 31s. 6d. These rates, which are inclusive of the value of certain allowances in kind provided by the farmer, show varying increases in different districts as compared with the pre-war rates, and the available information is not sufficient to provide a basis for a calculation of the average percentage increase in the United Kingdom as a whole. For ordinary male labourers in England and Wales, however, it is estimated that the average increase shown by these rates is between 120 and 130 per cent. on the 1914 rates. It should be noted, however, that the working hours in respect of which these minima are pay-

* Where different rates are paid to banker masons and fixers, respectively, the rates used are those for banker masons.

able (viz., 50 in summer and 48 in winter for ordinary labourers in England and Wales) are considerably less than the pre-war weekly working hours; and as time worked in excess of these hours is paid for at higher rates, the percentage increase in actual earnings is probably greater than the above figures would indicate. Notices have recently been issued by the Agricultural Wages Boards for England and Wales and for Ireland increasing the minimum rates quoted.

OTHER TRADES.

In the following Table particulars are given of the increases in rates of wages in certain other industries between July, 1914, and the end of February, 1920. In some of these cases, e.g., the furniture, baking and electricity industries, further increases have since been granted, or are being arranged, to take effect from later dates.

Industry or Occupation.	Usual Amount of Increase between July, 1914, and the end of February, 1920.
Printing and Bookbinding:- Compositors (Book and Jobbing Work). Bookbinders	46s. to 48s. a week. 41s. 6d. to 47s. 6d. a week.
Furnishing:- Cabinet Makers Upholsterers French Polishers	46s. to 50s. a week. 44s. to 53s. a week. 47s. to 55s. a week.
Baking:- Table Hands Pottery Manufacture (North Staffordshire). Chemical Manufacture ..	32s. to 41s. a week. 80 per cent., together with increases in basis rates for some classes. 33s. 6d. a week and a bonus of 12½ per cent. on total earnings. The rates for week-end shifts have also been raised.
Electricity Undertakings ..	33s. 6d. a week and a bonus of 12½ per cent. on total earnings. In addition, the basis rates have been increased in some districts.
Gas Undertakings	31s. 6d. to 33s. 6d. a week (for 6-day workers) according to the size of the undertaking, and a bonus of 12½ per cent. on total earnings. Shiftworkers for whom the general adoption of 8-hour shifts involved no reduction in hours received an additional increase of 6d. a shift.
Police Constables (Great Britain).	Minimum of 72s. a week adopted for men with one year's probationary service, resulting in increases of 42s. to 51s. in the minimum rate (apart from probationers).

SUMMARY.

From the details given it is evident that there is still a wide diversity between the increases granted to various classes of workers as regards both the actual advance in weekly wages and the percentage increase on pre-war rates. In some cases, notably among skilled workmen in industries where the same flat rate advance has been applied to all adult workmen, the increase up to the end of February last was equivalent to only about 100 per cent., or less in some cases, on the pre-war rate. On the other hand, in some other cases, particularly among the lower-paid grades in the same industries, the advances are equivalent to as much as 170 or 180 per cent. on the pre-war rates. While the information in the possession of the Department is not sufficiently complete to enable the average percentage increase for all industries and occupations to be calculated exactly, it is estimated, on the basis of the available data, that the average increase in weekly wages up to the end of February, 1920, was about 120 to 130 per cent. on the pre-war rates. As the length of the working week had been considerably reduced in the same period, the usual range of working hours in industry generally being about 44 to 48 weekly as compared with 48 to 60 before the war, the percentage increase in hourly rates would be substantially greater.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING OF EX-SERVICE MEN.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

The Minister of Labour has appointed a committee, consisting of equal numbers of representatives of employers, trade unions, ex-Service men's organizations, and of the Ministry of Labour, to consider the best means of facilitating the re-employment of ex-Service men, and to make recommendations to the Minister.

The members of the committee are:—Mr. T. W. Phillips, C.B.E. (Ministry of Labour), chairman, Mr. J. A. N. Barlow, C.B.E., Mr. F. Bramley, Mr. E. J. Brown, Mr. James A. Crerar, Mr. D. M. King, Mr. D. S. Majoribanks, C.B.E., Mr. I. H. Mitchell, Mr. E. L. Poulton, O.B.E., J.P., Mr. A. A. Purcell, Mr. J. F. Ryan, O.B.E., Captain Donald Simson. The Secretary is Mr. E. C. P. Lascelles, Ministry of Labour, Queen Anne's Chambers, S.W.1.

EMPLOYMENT AND RE-SETTLEMENT.

EX-SERVICE men who are unemployed are entitled to out-of-work donation for a specified period during the first twelve months subsequent to demobilisation, while for those who have exhausted their right to benefit under this scheme an

extension for a further nine weeks at a reduced rate of payment was granted, payable up to 31st March, 1920. At the end of March, a second extension of twelve weeks payable to 31st July, 1920, was granted.

In the following Table the claims to benefit at 26th March are analysed according to the industries in which the applicants have been classified:—

Industries.	Number claiming out-of-work donation at 26th March, 1920.		
	Under Original Scheme.	Under Special Extension Scheme.	Total.
INSURED INDUSTRIES.			
Building and Construction of Works..	7,230	1,812	9,042
Shipbuilding	3,578	1,076	4,654
Engineering and Ironfounding..	27,823	4,713	32,536
Construction of Vehicles	1,751	217	1,968
Sawmilling, Packing Case Making, etc.	1,186	169	1,355
Ammunition	53	9	62
Chemicals, etc.	414	70	484
Iron and Steel production	1,439	753	2,192
Metal Manufacture	2,240	327	2,567
Brick, Tile, etc.	174	20	194
Other Insured Industries..	903	124	1,027
Total, Insured Industries	46,791	9,280	56,081
UNINSURED INDUSTRIES.			
Agriculture	9,066	1,187	10,253
Conveyance of Men, Goods, etc. ..	38,620	9,069	47,689
Mines and Quarries..	1,361	502	1,863
Textiles	4,759	727	5,486
Commercial	14,078	2,032	16,110
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	4,854	561	5,415
Dress	5,347	706	6,053
Domestic Service, etc.	9,568	1,424	10,992
General Labourers	43,731	10,792	54,523
Other Uninsured Industries	20,797	2,364	23,161
Total, Uninsured Industries	152,181	29,364	181,545
Grand Total	198,972	38,654	237,626

Compared with the totals at 27th February, the number claiming donation at 26th March shows a decrease of 57,989 as regards the original scheme, and an increase of 6,476 as regards the Special Extension Scheme. The decrease on the total figure, accordingly, amounts to only 51,513 as compared with 83,034 for the previous month. The largest decreases occur in Engineering and Ironfounding, Transport, Building and Construction of Works and amongst General Labourers, these four groups accounting for 64 per cent. of the total decline.

Since the Armistice 4,279,212 men have been discharged or demobilised from the Forces, and the total number of applicants at 26th March represents only 5.6 per cent. of this total.

As regards the re-settlement of Ex-Service men, the records of the Employment Exchanges show that in Great Britain 20,332 non-disabled Ex-Service men were found employment by the Exchanges during the four weeks ended 5th March, 1920. No separate figures can be given in respect of non-disabled and disabled men in Ireland, but in the same period 726 Ex-Service men of both classes were found work by the Employment Exchanges in Ireland. The number of non-disabled Ex-Service men who were on the Live Register of the Exchanges at 26th March was 179,488.

INTERRUPTED APPRENTICESHIPS.

An important phase of the work of Employment Exchanges is that of arranging for assistance to be granted in respect of apprenticeships interrupted by the War. The total number of Ex-Service men for whom arrangements for assistance under this scheme had been completed up to 29th March, 1920, was 32,760, of whom 12,021 were in Engineering, 5,521 in Building, 4,583 in Printing and Allied Trades, and 2,075 in Shipbuilding.

DISABLED MEN.

As a result of the special efforts which are being made by Employment Exchanges on their behalf, 4,886 disabled Ex-Service men were placed in their first Employment after discharge from the Forces during the four weeks ended 5th March, 1920, whilst in 332 cases the men have been placed a second or subsequent time.

Of 25,892 disabled men on the Live Register, 6,236 were leg and foot cases, and 4,885 were arm and hand cases. Lung and heart disabilities each accounted for over 2,000 cases. Although 8,282 fresh applicants were registered during the month, the Live Register of disabled men shows a decrease of 4,715 as compared with the total at 6th February, 1920.

In order to assist the disabled men who are still unemployed, a special appeal was issued in September by the King to employers of labour, asking for the employment of disabled men on a percentage basis. At 26th March, 1920, 14,338 undertakings to employ the suggested percentage of disabled men had been accepted by local Employment Committees, and a further 385 applications were awaiting consideration and acceptance.

TRAINING.

The Industrial Training Department of the Ministry of Labour has arranged training schemes under which about 21,000 ex-service men are receiving instruction, this number representing a net increase of 75 per cent. during the past six months. The lack of training facilities which hampered such work at the outset has now been remedied to a considerable degree. Locally-supervised training in technical schools and in the establishments of private employers has been adopted in many cases and this is being supplemented to an increasing extent by Government Instructional Factories.

The number of Government Instructional Factories under the control of the Ministry is now 47 as against 7 at the time of the transfer of powers from the Ministry of Pensions in May, 1919. Twenty-one of these are now more or less completely equipped and in working order, the factories at Loughborough and Aberdeen having already 430 and 419 men in training respectively. The remainder are being adapted and equipped as quickly as circumstances allow, and it is reckoned that at least 14,000 training places, additional to those already occupied, will be available by the time that all are in full swing.

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE.

The Governing Body of the International Labour Office met in London on the 22nd-26th March. The delegates were as follows:—

Government representatives: M. Arthur Fontaine (France), Sir Malcolm Delevingne (Great Britain), Baron Mayor des Planches (Italy), Dr. Hermann Rufenacht (Switzerland), M. Franciszek Sokal (Poland), Mr. F. A. Acland (Canada), Vicomte de Eza (Spain), M. E. Mahaim (Belgium), M. S. Neumann (Denmark), M. de Alvear (Argentina), M. Nagaoka (Japan), and Dr. Leymann (Germany).
Employers' representatives: M. Louis Guérin (France), Sir Allan Smith, M.P. (Great Britain), M. F. Hodacz (Czecho-Slovakia), M. Jules Lecocq (Belgium), Dr. Dietrich Schindler (Switzerland), and Signor R. Osculati (Italy).
Workers' representatives: M. Léon Jouhaux (France), Mr. G. H. Stuart-Bunning (Great Britain), M. J. Oudegeest (Netherlands), M. A. Herman Lindqvist (Sweden), and Mr. Tom Moore (Canada).

The Governing Body approved the scheme for the organisation of the Office proposed by the Director, M. Albert Thomas; and it was agreed that a Health Section of the Office should be set up to deal with matters of industrial hygiene, and to act in co-operation with the Health Department of the League of Nations.

A discussion took place on the arrangements for the Seamen's Conference at Genoa in June. It was decided to suggest that a standing committee, consisting of five representatives of shipowners, five of seamen, and two of the Governing Body, should be set up. This committee will be associated with the Technical Maritime Section of the International Labour Office. A general discussion also took place on the proposed enquiry in Russia. It was decided to accept the suggestion of the League of Nations to nominate a worker and an employer as members of the Committee of Inquiry which is being sent by the League, but the Governing Body did not consider it possible that members so nominated could be members of both Commissions. It was resolved that the International Labour Office Commission should confine its attention to the objects assigned to the International Labour Organisation by Part 13 of the Treaty of Peace. The Commission will consist of twelve members, two proposed by the Government members of the Governing Body, five by the employers', and five by the workers' members. An International Commission to study the question of emigration has been set up, to consist of a chairman, six Government representatives, six employers' representatives, and six workers. Nine of the eighteen members will be from European, the remainder to be from extra-European, countries.

Arrangements for the International Labour Conference for 1921 were also discussed. It was resolved that the Conference should take place early in that year at Geneva, the following subjects to be included in the agenda:—

- (1) Steps taken in various countries to carry out the decisions of the Washington and Genoa Conferences.
- (2) Agricultural questions:
 - (a) The adaptation to agriculture of the decisions of the Washington Conference as to hours of work, unemployment, and the protection of women and children.
 - (b) Technical agricultural training;
 - (c) Hygiene;
 - (d) Right of agricultural workers to form trade unions;
 - (e) Protection against accidents, sickness, invalidity and old age.
- (3) Industrial diseases:
 - (a) Disinfection of wool infected with anthrax;
 - (b) The use of white lead in painting.
- (4) Report of the Commission on Emigration.
- (5) Revision of the composition of the Governing Body and any necessary alteration in the Statutes.

THE GERMAN WORKS COUNCILS ACT.

A Works Council Act (*Betriebsrätegesetz*) was passed on 18th January, 1920, in order to guarantee the general economic interests of workers (manual and non-manual) in relation to their employers and to assist the employers in carrying out the aims of their undertakings.

The term "worker" (*Arbeitnehmer*) covers all manual and non-manual workers with the exception of members of the employer's family. It does not include persons whose employment is not mainly for profit.

Works Councils must be set up in all establishments employing as a rule at least 20 workers. In smaller establishments a Works Steward must be elected. A special Works Council for out-workers must be set up when 20 or more are employed. In order to guarantee special economic and social interests, separate Councils for manual and non-manual workers must be set up wherever both classes are represented on the Works Councils.

Members of the Councils are to be elected by direct and secret ballot according to the principles of proportional representation for the year; they shall be eligible for re-election. All workers, male and female, of 18 years and over, in possession of civil rights have the right to vote. All with the right to vote who are 24 years of age and over, who are not learners and who have been at least six months with their employer and three years in the industry are qualified for election.

Rules are laid down for election procedure, and the Federal Minister of Labour, in agreement with the Federal Council and a Committee of the Reichstag consisting of 28 members, is empowered to issue administrative regulations.

If a Works Council has nine or more members it must elect from its own members a Works Committee of five persons.

Provision is made for (1) a Central Works Council in addition to, or (2) a Joint Works Council instead of individual Works Councils when interdependent establishments are owned by the same firm, &c.

In Section 66 it is laid down that it shall be the function of the Works Council to help that management to secure efficiency; to protect it from unauthorised interference, and, failing agreement in disputes, to appeal to the Conciliation Committee or to an Arbitration Board to be agreed on; to fix or modify, in agreement with the employer, the conditions of service; to promote a good understanding between workers and employer and to maintain the workers' right of forming associations; to take measures to prevent danger to health and accidents; and to co-operate in the administration of pensions, housing or other welfare schemes attached to the establishment.

The Works Council has the right to require the employer to give to the Works Committee information as to all the transactions of the establishment which affect the contract of service and the activity of the workers (provided no business secrets are endangered or legal regulations contravened), and to show the wages books and give other information necessary for carrying out existing collective agreements. The employer must supply a quarterly report on the position and progress of the undertaking and of the industry in general, as well as of the output of the establishment and the expected demand for labour.

Any person who with intent to deceive the workers shall give wrong data or conceal correct data in reports on the financial position is liable to imprisonment not exceeding one year and to a fine not exceeding 10,000 marks, or to either of those penalties. Any person disclosing confidential information given to him as a member of a works representative body is liable to a fine of not more than 1,500 marks or to imprisonment; if convicted of intention to gain financial advantage or to injure the employer heavier penalties may be imposed.

Should the engagement or dismissal of a considerable number of workers become necessary, the employer must as soon as possible discuss with the Works Committee or the Works Council the nature and extent of the necessary changes and the possibility of avoiding hardships.

The functions of the Manual and Non-Manual Workers' Councils are of a more specialised character. They include, amongst many others, the laying down of guiding rules for the engagement of workers in their group in the establishments and co-operation in carrying out the regulations as to their discharge.

The engagement of a worker must not be conditional on his political, military, religious, or Trade Union views, or on his belonging or not belonging to a political, religious, or occupational union or to a military association. The rules must not prescribe that the engagement shall depend on belonging to a particular nationality.

Provision is made for appeal by the Councils against the engagement or discharge of workers to the competent Conciliation Committee or an Arbitration Board. Discharge without a statement of the reasons for it is one of the grounds of appeal.

If the appeal against dismissal is held to be valid, the employer must either offer reinstatement or give compensation for dismissal. The amount of compensation is fixed at the rate of one-twelfth of the earnings in the last year for each year of service, but should not in all exceed six

twelfths. Should the worker accept reinstatement the employer must pay him his wage or salary for the period between dismissal and reinstatement. Should the worker refuse re-employment he is entitled only to wage or salary for the period between the date of his discharge and the date of the Conciliation Committee's award.

Before giving notice of dismissal to a member of a works representative body, or before transfer of such a worker to another establishment, the employer must obtain the consent of the works representative body.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY IN FRANCE.

I. SEAFARING.

ON 2nd August, 1919, a law was passed establishing the eight-hour day or the forty-eight-hour week for "seafarers of either sex and of all ages" and providing that further regulations as to the methods of application should be issued after agreements had been made between the shipowners' and seamen's organisations concerned.

In accordance with this law, on 25th February a Decree appeared in the *Journal Officiel* determining the application of the eight-hour law to seamen as follows:—

Ships engaged in the foreign trade, in the coasting trade, in pilot work, fishing, or in pleasure voyages, must choose one of the following methods for applying the principle of the eight-hour day in respect to every class of worker on board:—

1. Actual work to be limited to eight hours per working day.
2. Unequal distribution of daily work on the basis of 48 hours per week, not including the day set apart for the weekly rest.
3. Unequal distribution of the daily work spread over one month on the average basis of eight hours per working day.

If the captain deems it necessary when at sea all members of the crew must do the work assigned them, however long it takes.

For "large" steamers and other mechanically-propelled vessels, also for "large" sailing vessels on which the work is already organised in three watches (or could be so organised without important changes), and for lighters which are at sea for periods exceeding 24 hours, a system of at least three watches is prescribed, except in certain cases mentioned below. This applies to the deck hands and to the engine-room staff, while the purser's staff is not to be employed in normal circumstances more than eight hours daily. When in port the duration of work may not normally exceed eight hours, each hour spent on board to count as an hour of actual work. In smaller coasting vessels, whether steamers or sailing ships, and lighters which are not at sea for more than 24 hours at a time, the duration of work may be calculated by the month on the basis of an average eight hours' day, and the work at sea may be organised in two watches, both for officers and crew.

On boats whose voyages are completed in less than 12 hours, the duration of work may be regulated by the week on the basis of an average eight hours' working day.

The following permanent exceptions are permissible:—

1. 60 hours overtime per month on board steamers and other mechanically-propelled vessels, as well as on lighters (without means of propulsion) remaining at sea for over 24 hours.
2. 100 hours overtime per month on sailing vessels.
3. 24 hours overtime weekly on board lighters (without means of propulsion) staying not more than 24 hours at sea and on board vessels whose voyages last less than 12 hours.

The cases of tugs, barges and fishing smacks are dealt with in detail, and exceptional circumstances such as fire, fog, illness, &c., are enumerated in which work may be prolonged. Arrangements are made by which overtime is compensated for, either by extra leave or by additional remuneration. Finally, it is stated that ships which are unable to apply the foregoing rules through inability to make the necessary alterations in their crews' quarters may postpone such organisation till an international agreement has been arrived at concerning the regulation of work on board ship. Meanwhile a joint arbitration commission will decide which ships are to benefit by this concession.

II. RAILWAY SERVICE.

According to *l'Economiste Parlementaire* of 1st April, 1920, the principle of the eight-hour day laid down by the law of 23rd April, 1919, has now been applied to about 200,000 railway workers in France, or over half the entire staff of the great trunk lines. For certain categories, more especially those of engine drivers, stokers and travelling staff, a temporary arrangement has been in operation since 1st July, 1919, pending the establishment of a definitive

* "Large" is defined in the Decree.

scheme. These are said to be the only railwaymen not yet enjoying the full benefit of the eight-hour day.

It would appear that the application of the law has been facilitated by the institution of joint committees of representatives of the companies and the workers on each line. A higher joint committee sits at the Ministry of Public Works.

The new régime has necessitated an increase in staff of nearly 25 per cent. in the case of those workers already benefiting by it, and an increase ranging from 25 to 30 per cent. for engine-drivers, stokers and travelling staff. This has involved the promotion of about 20 per cent. of the staff and the employment of too many inexperienced workers, the latter being one of the chief causes of the present transport crisis. At the end of 1918 the deficit of the railways had reached 2,000,000,000 francs, and this year, with the further expenditure due to the adoption of the eight-hour day, it is expected that the deficit will reach at least 4,500,000,000 francs.

AMENDMENTS IN FRENCH LAW ON TRADE ASSOCIATIONS.

The *Journal Officiel* of 14th March, 1920, contains the text of the law of 12th March, 1920, amending the law of 21st March, 1884, relating to the civil capacities of Trade Associations. The latter term, it should be noted, covers not only associations of workpeople, but also associations of employers, joint associations of employers and employed, and farmers' associations.

A new clause permits a married woman exercising a profession or trade to become a member of a trade association without the consent of her husband. Minors above 16 years of age may also become members if their parents or guardians do not object. Moreover, a person who has ceased to practise his trade or profession may continue to be a member of an organisation provided he has followed such trade or profession for at least one year.

The uses to which the funds of trade organisations may be applied are extended. The earlier law permitted organisations to acquire no real property other than what was necessary for the purposes of their meetings, their libraries, or for courses of technical instruction. The new law permits them to erect cheap dwellings and to purchase land for workmen's gardens, &c. They may also grant financial assistance to co-operative societies. On condition that there shall be no distribution of profits (even under the form of rebate to their members) they may purchase, and let out on hire or for loan or distribution to their members, raw materials, tools, implements, machines, manures, seed, plants, animals, and foodstuffs for animals. They may also give assistance in selling the produce of members, by exhibitions, advertisement, &c., but not in the name or on the responsibility of the associations. Trade associations may also use trade marks and labels and claim exclusive proprietary rights in these. Land, buildings, and furniture necessary for meetings, &c., of associations are not liable to distraint. The same applies to special benefits and pension funds.

None of the rights which have been granted to trade associations by any special laws, and which are not covered by the present law, are to be in any way prejudiced by it.

The law applies to the liberal professions. The conditions under which it shall apply to State and municipal employees will be determined by a special law.

INCREASED PENSIONS FOR FRENCH MINERS.*

THE Act of 29th June, 1894, in which the principle of compulsory insurance against infirmity and old age was applied to French miners, was amended on 25th February, 1914. The amending Act provided for the establishment of a single pension fund for the mining industry of France, to be administered by a Council of 18 persons, upon which employers, workpeople and the Government were represented by six members each. The State undertook to contribute 100 francs per annum to each pension granted and to pay 2,000,000 francs annually towards general administrative expenses and certain other specified purposes.

Further amendments are introduced by a law passed on 9th March of the current year. The main provision of this new law is the allocation of higher subventions towards the pensions granted to miners or their widows. In future, the subvention will be 860 francs per annum for miners and 430 francs for their widows, the total pensions being raised to 1,500 francs and 750 francs respectively. Among other concessions is the inclusion within the scope of the Act of persons who, after having worked as miners for ten years, become Trade Union officials.

The Administrative Council is empowered to fix the date from which the law is to take effect, which in any case should be not later than 1st March, 1920.

* *Journal Officiel*, 10th March, 1920.

WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN THE UNITED STATES, 1907 TO 1919.

A memorandum supplied by H.M. Commercial Secretary at Washington, dated 20th February, 1920, states that, according to figures prepared by the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the United States Department of Labour, the average union wage scales per hour in 1919 in certain trades considered, taken together, were 55 per cent. higher than in 1913, 17 per cent. higher than in 1918, and 72 per cent. higher than in 1907.

The full-time hours of labour per week in 1919 were 2 per cent. less than in 1918, and 8 per cent. less than in 1907. The 1919 regular full-time weekly earnings, under these rates, were 48 per cent. above 1913 and 61 per cent. above 1907.

These figures relate to May in each year and apply only to persons employed at time-rates, piece-workers not being included. They cover the bakery, building, stone, metal, machine woodworking and printing trades, and also chauffeurs and carmen, freight handlers, laundry workers, theatre hands and waiters.

The following Table of index numbers is given, showing the change from year to year between 1907 and 1919, the year 1913 being taken as the basis of comparison:—

Year.	Index Numbers (1913=100).		
	Rate of Wages per hour.	Full-time Hours per week.	Rate of Wages per week, Full-time.
1907	90	103	92
1908	91	102	93
1909	92	102	93
1910	94	101	95
1911	96	101	96
1912	98	100	98
1913	100	100	100
1914	102	100	102
1915	103	99	102
1916	107	99	106
1917	114	98	112
1918	133	97	130
1919	155	95	148

WAGES AND SALARIES IN SWEDEN, 1913-1918.*

In October, 1918, the Swedish Department for Social Affairs instituted an enquiry into wages in various industries for the purpose of discovering what increase had taken place during the period of the war. As investigations had already been made with regard to wages in agriculture, forestry and handicrafts, as also with regard to domestic, hotel and restaurant services, the new enquiry was restricted to manufactures, commerce, transport, State and municipal employment, and banks and insurance companies.

The information first obtained covered the period from 1913 to 1917, and the first nine months of 1918, but a later enquiry carried the investigation down to the end of the year 1918. The enquiry included the administrative staffs (male and female) as well as the manual workers employed in the various undertakings.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE STAFFS IN PRIVATE CONCERNS.

The administrative staffs covered by the enquiry are divided into four groups, viz., managers, technical employees, office employees and shop assistants. The following Table shows the number of persons in each group covered by the enquiry, the average salary in 1913 and 1918, and the percentage rise in salary between the two years. [Conversions from Swedish currency have in all cases been made at the parity rate of 18 kroner=£1.]

Group.	No. of persons covered by enquiry.		Average yearly salary.		Percentage increase in 1918 (as compared with 1913).
	1913	1918	£	£	
Managers	2,253	3,156	446	928	108
Technical Employees	4,477	8,643	168	281	87
Office Employees	20,217	32,096	115	193	89
Shop Assistants	5,253	8,263	65	118	83
Total	32,200	50,148	137	246	79

(b) MANUAL WORKERS IN PRIVATE CONCERNS.

The following Table summarises the results of the enquiry as regards the manual workers, irrespective of age or sex.

Year.	No. of establishments covered by the enquiry.	No. of work-people covered by the enquiry.	Average No. of days worked per head per annum.	Average earnings per worker.	
				per annum.	per diem.
1913	2140	197,804	286	£ 61	s. d. 4 3
1914	2140	203,971	281	61	4 4
1915	2140	209,854	284	65	4 7
1916	2140	220,928	286	73	5 1
1917	2140	218,812	278	87	6 3
1918	2718	264,057	274	124	9 1

* *Societal Meddelanden*, No. 9-12, 1919. Stockholm.

The figures for the years from 1913 to 1917 are in respect of establishments which gave information covering the whole of that period, and it is believed by the authors of the Report that the increase in the number of firms furnishing information in 1918 has not exercised any appreciable effect on the average earnings figure computed for that year.

The next Table gives the yearly and daily earnings, with the percentage increase between 1913 and 1918, distinguishing men, women and juveniles.

Group.	Average Yearly Earnings.		Percentage Increase from 1913 to 1918.	Average Daily Earnings.		Percentage Increase from 1913 to 1918.
	1913.	1918.		1913.	1918.	
Men over 18 years of age	£ 69	£ 139	102	s. d. 4 10	s. d. 9 11	107
Women over 18 years of age	36	82	71	2 7	5 1	97
Juveniles	27	54	100	1 11	4 2	114
Workers whose sex was not distinguished	60	129	114	4 2	9 5	127
All Workers	61	124	105	4 3	9 1	114

The following Table gives for the various industries included in the investigation the yearly earnings of adult workers for the years 1913 and 1918, with percentage increases, distinguishing men from women.

Occupations.	Average Number of Workpeople.		Average Yearly Wage.		Percentage Increase between 1913 and 1918.
	1913.	1918.	1913.	1918.	
			£	£	Per cent.
Metal and Engineering:					
Men	43,763	71,889	73	146	100
Women	1,178	2,456	38	70	95
Pottery and Glass:					
Men	8,760	14,012	58	119	104
Women	379	615	39	55	42
Woodworking:					
Men	11,986	17,857	54	109	101
Women	199	208	31	67	113
Paper and Printing:					
Men	13,735	17,747	72	140	94
Women	1,431	2,638	38	68	78
Food Preparation:					
Men	7,553	7,959	76	144	89
Women	1,984	2,030	41	79	92
Textiles and Clothing:					
Men	5,119	5,277	62	107	72
Women	11,494	9,602	36	54	60
Leather and Indiarubber:					
Men	1,873	3,345	70	134	91
Women	967	1,436	41	69	69
Chemicals:					
Men	4,594	7,209	65	129	99
Women	2,096	2,780	34	58	72
Building:					
Men only	2,885	5,819	86	142	64
Power, Light and Water:					
Men	9,768	13,652	72	157	117
Women	99	281	35	75	111
Commerce, Warehousing:					
Men	3,128	3,835	68	135	97
Women	583	880	34	71	108
Transport:					
Men only	16,794	24,132	67	151	125
All Occupations:					
Men	130,353	192,733	69	139	102
Women	20,398	22,926	36	62	71

(c) CIVIL SERVANTS.

An enquiry was also made into the salaries of Government employees. Various departments gave particulars of the total salaries paid and of the number of persons of various grades employed in each of the years from 1913 to 1917, and from January to September, 1918.

Since the investigation made in October, 1918, the Riksdag has passed a resolution giving an extra cost of living bonus to all civil servants, which has resulted in a considerable increase in their salaries. In order to ascertain the amount of such increase an enquiry was made at the end of 1918 into the salaries of three of the chief groups, i.e., the staffs of the post, telegraph and State railway services. The result of the enquiry is shown in the following Table:—

Sex and Grade.	Salaries in 1913.	Salaries (including Extra Bonus) in 1918.	
		Amount.	Percentage Increase.
	£	£	
Men (ordinary staff):			
Higher Grade	205	340	66
Lower Grade	88	109	124
Men (supplementary staff):			
Higher Grade	90	205	128
Lower Grade	49	137	182
Women (ordinary staff):			
(supplementary staff):	88	165	88
	45	123	176

STATISTICS OF RETAIL PRICES.

RETAIL PRICES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

STATISTICS FOR 1st APRIL, 1920.*

Summary: Average Increases since July, 1914. Principal articles of Food ... 135% All Items included ... 132%

Food. The general level of retail prices of the principal articles of food at 1st April, was slightly higher than at 1st March. The price of sugar rose from 8d. to 10d. per lb. (for granulated). Potatoes also were dearer, the increase in the average price being 3d. per 7 lbs. On the other hand, eggs, milk, and imported mutton were cheaper, the price of eggs falling by over 1/2d. each, milk by about 1/2d. per quart, and imported mutton by 1/2d. per lb. on the average.

In the following Table is given a comparison of average prices of the articles of food included in the statistics in July, 1914, at the beginning of November, 1918 (just before the Armistice), and on 1st April, 1920. In making comparisons between prices at different times of the year it is necessary to remember the seasonal variations in the prices of some articles:—

Table with columns: Article, Average Price (per lb. unless otherwise indicated) for July 1914, 1st Nov. 1918, 1st April 1920, and Average Inc. (+) or Decrease (-) at 1st April, 1920, as compared with July 1914.

The following Table gives a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st April, in relation to the prices of July, 1914, 1st November, 1918, and 1st March, 1920:—

Table with columns: Article, Average Percentage Increase at 1st April, 1920, as compared with July, 1914, broken down by Large Towns (Population over 50,000), Small Towns and Villages, and United Kingdom, and Corresponding figure for United Kingdom.

* The particulars given in this article relate to 1st April, and therefore do not include the effect of the increase in the prices of flour and bread which took place on 12th April, in consequence of the reduction of the subsidy. It is estimated that if the prices of other commodities remained unchanged the increase in flour and bread prices resulting from the reduction of the subsidy would raise the increases stated to about 146 per cent. for food alone and about 138 per cent. for "all items."

† If this kind is seldom dealt with in a locality the Returns quote prices for another kind locally representative.

‡ Government butter, except in Ireland.

The average percentage increase for all the articles combined is based on the cost of maintaining the pre-war dietary as regards the above articles. The average percentage increase in expenditure on the principal articles of food, which has appeared in previous issues of the LABOUR GAZETTE since February, 1918, can no longer be given, as the statistics of consumption collected by the Ministry of Food, on which the calculation depended, are not so complete as formerly and do not now afford a satisfactory basis for the necessary estimates as to quantities purchased.

RENT, CLOTHING, FUEL AND LIGHT.

Increases in rents of working-class dwellings have been limited by the Increase of Rent Restriction Acts and, for the same accommodation, rents generally are the same as before the war, except in so far as higher rents have resulted from increased rates. Increases on this account averaged a little less than 10 per cent. of the pre-war rents.

As regards the prices of clothing, the statistics are designed to relate to the same qualities, or to corresponding qualities, so far as possible. Owing, however, to the wide range of quotations, both now and before the war, to changes in qualities and in stocks held by retailers, and to variations in the extent to which different articles and qualities have been affected by price-changes, it is impossible to make an exact calculation of the increase in prices of clothing. From information as to the movements of prices of men's suits and overcoats, underclothing and hosiery, textile materials, and boots, received from retailers in the principal towns, it is estimated that the level of prices of clothing, quality for quality, taking goods of the kind purchased by the working classes, now averages between 310 and 320 per cent. higher than in July, 1914.

In the fuel and light group, the average increase in the retail prices of coal since July, 1914, was nearly 75 per cent. at 1st April. For gas the increase was less than for coal, but the prices of lamp oil and candles (cheap kinds) have approximately trebled, while matches show a still greater increase. These last three items have, however, relatively small influence on the average movement in the fuel and light group, in which, taken as a whole, the average increase is estimated at between 80 and 85 per cent.

ALL ITEMS.

In order to arrive at a single figure representing the increase since July, 1914, for all the items taken together, the average increases are combined in accordance with their relative importance, allowance also being made for the increase in the prices of soap, soda, domestic ironmongery, brushware and pottery, tobacco, fares and newspapers, which is estimated at an average of about 120 per cent. The resultant figure for 1st April, 1920, is about 132 per cent., this representing the average increase since July, 1914, in the prices (including rents) of all the items included in the statistics, taking the same quantities and, as far as possible, the same qualities of the various items in 1920 as in 1914. This general increase is slightly greater than at 1st March, when it was about 130 per cent. If the amount of increased taxation on commodities is deducted, the average increase on the prices of July, 1914, is about 6 per cent. less.

It may be convenient to repeat here the figures which have been published from time to time showing the average percentage increase for "all items" as compared with July, 1914, and these are given in the following Table:—

Average Percentage Increase since July, 1914: All Items. (Food, rent, clothing, fuel and light, etc.)

Table showing the average percentage increase for all items from 1915 to 1920, broken down by month (beginning of).

The above figures show the percentage increase in the cost of maintaining unchanged the average pre-war standard of living of working class families, i.e., taking the same quantities of each article at the different dates. They make no allowance for any charges in expenditure due to the shortage in the supplies of certain articles (e.g., butter and sugar), or to the economies which have been necessary in cases where wages have risen less than prices.

(NOTE.—The LABOUR GAZETTE for March contained a full account of the scope and method of compilation of the above Statistics.)

FRANCE.

Paris.*

The index number representing the general level of retail prices of food, fuel and lighting in Paris during February, 1920, indicates a rise of 14.1 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and is 239 per cent. higher than in July, 1914. The computation of the movement in the general prices level is based on the pre-war budget of a typical Parisian family of the working-class, and it is assumed that no change has taken place in the standard of dietary throughout the period covered.

ITALY.

(a) Rome.†

The general level of food prices in Rome shows an increase of 9 per cent. in February, 1920, as compared with the preceding month, and an increase of 199 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. If the prices of other household necessities (clothing, fuel, lighting, rent, &c.) be also taken into consideration, the general level in February shows an increase of 11.4 per cent. as compared with January, and an increase of 193 per cent. as compared with the pre-war level.

The basis of the foregoing computation is the cost of satisfying the weekly requirements of a working-class family consisting of two adults and three children, and it is assumed that the standard of living has been identical throughout the period covered.

(b) Milan.‡

The cost of maintaining the pre-war standard of living in Milan for one week, in the case of a family consisting of five persons, at the prices current in March, 1920, was 2.0 per cent. below that of February and 274 per cent. higher than in the first half of 1914. The cost of food alone showed a decrease of 2.9 per cent. as compared with February, but an increase of 306 per cent. as compared with the first half of 1914. The cost of clothing in March was 233 per cent. above the pre-war figure, and that of heating and lighting 325 per cent.; rent shows an increase of 8.3 per cent. on the pre-war figure.

HOLLAND (AMSTERDAM).§

The index number representing the total food-bill of working-class families in Amsterdam, calculated at the prices current in February, 1920, shows an increase of 0.9 per cent. as compared with the cost in the preceding month, and an increase of 105.1 per cent. as compared with the cost in 1913. The cost of the food budget is computed on the assumption that no change has taken place in the dietetic standard throughout the period covered.

SWEDEN.¶

At the prices prevailing in March, the cost of maintaining the standard pre-war budget of a typical Swedish household in the matter of food, fuel, and lighting represents an increase of 0.3 per cent. upon the cost in the preceding month, and of 191 per cent. in comparison with July, 1914. The "typical family" is one consisting of a man and wife and two children, which had an expenditure (in 1914) of about £111 per annum. The above figures relate to the principal towns of Sweden taken together, but if the same budget be taken to apply to Stockholm alone, March shows an increase of 0.3 per cent. as against February, 1920, and of 201 per cent. as compared with July, 1914.

The above computations are based on a comparison of expenditure upon articles of food, fuel and lighting only. The total family expenditure, including also the computed expenditure upon rent, clothing, taxation and other items, at the prices current on 1st April, 1920, shows an increase of 165 per cent. when compared with the expenditure in July, 1914.

UNITED STATES.¶

The general level of retail food prices in the United States in February was 0.5 per cent. lower than that of the preceding month, and 16 per cent. lower than that of February, 1919, but was 96 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. In the computation of the general level, the various articles of food are "weighted" according to their respective importance in household consumption, and it is assumed that no change has taken place in the standard of living throughout the period under review.

* From information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the General Statistical Department of France.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Office of Labour, Rome.

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Municipal Labour Office, Milan.

§ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Municipal Statistical Bureau of Amsterdam.

¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Director of the Bureau of Social Statistics, Stockholm.

¶ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioner of Labour Statistics, Washington, D.C.

CANADA.*

The estimated weekly expenditure upon food by a family of five in February, 1920, as computed from returns of retail prices prevailing in 60 towns in the Dominion, shows an increase amounting to 2.6 per cent. when compared with that of the preceding month, and an increase of 111.6 per cent. when compared with the expenditure in July, 1914. If the total expenditure upon food, fuel, lighting and rent be considered the February figures show an increase of 2 per cent. as compared with the preceding month, and of 74 per cent. as compared with July, 1914. The difference in the extent of the rise since July, 1914, between food on the one hand, and the total family expenditure on the other, is due to the fact that while food, fuel and lighting have become considerably dearer, house-rent in February, according to the Canadian statistics, was only about 15 per cent. higher than in the period immediately before the war.

NEW ZEALAND.†

The index number of retail prices of food in March, 1920, based on returns relating to 25 representative towns in New Zealand, shows an increase of 1.3 per cent. when compared with the preceding month. As compared with July, 1914, all the groups of food specified in the Table were dearer, the combined index number for March, 1920, being 61.7 per cent. above the pre-war level. In the computation of the general index numbers, regard is had to the relative importance of the various groups of commodities in consumption before the war, and it is assumed that in this respect no change has taken place.

Table showing the percentage increase or decrease in retail prices for various groups of articles in March 1920 compared with July 1914.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Government Statistician of New Zealand.

FOOD PRICES—GENERAL SUMMARY.

PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD IN THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES AT THE UNDERMENTIONED DATES, AS COMPARED WITH JULY, 1914.

[N.B.—The figures below should be read in connection with the details given under each country in this and previous issues of THE LABOUR GAZETTE.]

Table showing the percentage increase in retail food prices since July 1914 for various countries, broken down by year from 1915 to 1919, and the latest figures available.

* It should be noted that the figures for the United Kingdom in this table relate to food only. For all items the increase is 132 per cent. (See p. 176.) † The figure given also includes fuel, lighting, and clothing. ‡ Fuel and lighting are also included in these figures. § Figures for August, 3rd Quarter. ¶ Decrease. ¶ The figure given relates to August.

** Figures for six months, April to September. †† Figures for June.

EMPLOYMENT OVERSEAS.

FRANCE.*

Employment Exchanges in March.—According to returns furnished to the Central Employment Exchange, the number of permanent situations found by Exchanges during the week ending 27th March was 10,859, of which 7,771 were for men and 3,088 for women; this total shows a decrease of 2,917 on that of the previous week.

The number of applicants for work who were not placed was 11,009 (8,156 men and 2,853 women), a decrease of 1,618 on the previous week. Of the unplaced applicants, over 53 per cent. were resident in the Seine Department (which includes Paris).

DENMARK.†

Unemployment in February.—According to returns made to the Danish Statistical Department, supplemented by data furnished by the Central Employment Exchange, out of a total of 294,934 workpeople 9.6 per cent. were unemployed on 27th February, as compared with 13.2 per cent. on 31st January.

Table showing Unemployment in Denmark by Trades and Provinces for 30th Jan. and 27th Feb. 1920.

SWEDEN.‡

Employment, October-December, 1919.—The percentage of members unemployed in Swedish trade unions at the beginning of December, 1919, was 3.8, as compared with 3.2 per cent. on the corresponding date in the preceding month.

Table showing Unemployment in Sweden by Unions for 1st Dec. 1919 and 1st, 15th, and 31st Dec. 1919.

* Journal Officiel, 3rd April, 1920. † Statistiske Efterretninger, 15th March, 1920. Statistical Department of Denmark, Copenhagen. ‡ Societa Meddelanden (the journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs), February, 1920, Stockholm.

NORWAY.*

Employment in January.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of January in certain trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for January, 1919:—

Table showing Unemployment in Norway by Group of Trades for Jan. 31, 1920, Dec. 31, 1919, and Jan. 31, 1919.

SWITZERLAND.†

Employment in February.—The monthly report issued by the Central Employment Exchange of the Swiss Unemployment Department states that employment underwent a decided improvement in February. For every 100 vacant situations for men notified at the Local Employment Exchanges there were 110 applications, as against 151 in the previous month and 197 in February, 1919.

The conclusion drawn from these figures is borne out by the weekly reports from the Cantonal Central Clearing Houses.

As regards individual trades the report states that a considerable number of builders' labourers were still out of work, as were also electrical assemblers, wiremen, stokers and firemen, enginemen, general metal workers, certain categories of watch and clockmakers and lace makers, saddlers, bakers, butchers and workers in the printing and hotel trades.

Women were also in good demand for domestic service, hotel work and for the textile industry.

CANADA.‡

Employment in December.—Returns relating to unemployment in December were received by the Canadian Department of Labour from 1,434 labour organisations, having a total membership of 174,203.

The following Table gives the percentages unemployed in the principal groups of trades in November and December, 1919, and in December, 1918:—

Table showing Unemployment in Canada by Group of Trades for 31 Dec. 1919, Dec. 1919, Nov. 1919, and Dec. 1918.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics. † Eidgenössische Zentralstelle für Arbeitsnachweis, Monatsbericht, February 1920, Berne. ‡ The Labour Gazette, February, 1920 The Canadian Department of Labour, Ottawa

UNITED STATES.*

Employment in February.—The following tabular statements showing the volume of employment in representative manufacturing establishments in 13 selected industries in the United States in February, 1920, as compared with the preceding month and (b) February, 1919, are compiled from reports received by the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics:—

(a) February, 1920, as compared with January, 1920.

Table showing Employment in the United States by Industry for Jan. and Feb. 1920, with percentage change and earnings.

In ten industries there was a decrease in the number of persons employed in February as compared with January, and in three cases an increase. Decreases in aggregate earnings are shown in 11 industries.

(b) February, 1920, as compared with February, 1919.

Table showing Employment in the United States by Industry for Feb. 1919 and Feb. 1920, with percentage change and earnings.

When the figures for February, 1920, are compared with those of identical establishments for February, 1919, increases are shown in the number of workpeople employed in 11 industries and decreases in two.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Federal Commissioners of Labour Statistics, Washington. † The figures represent the aggregate wages bill for two weeks in the case of the iron and steel, the railway and tramcar building and repairing and the silk industries, and for one week in other cases.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MARCH.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

THERE was a further improvement in the state of employment in March, and employment was good in most of the principal industries. The engineering trades had largely, but not entirely, recovered from the effects of the recent strike at the ironfoundries.

In industries in which workpeople are insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Acts, the percentage unemployed at 26th March, 1920, including demobilised members of H.M. Forces claiming Out-of-Work Donation, was 3.63.

The number of men on the live registers of the Employment Exchanges at 2nd April, 1920, was 290,472, or a decrease of 60,546 on the total at 5th March; the number of women was 47,382 or a decrease of 5,525 on the total at 5th March.

Employment continued good at coal mines. There was a slight increase in the number of men employed in March, as compared with February and a considerable increase on a year ago.

In the pig iron industry and at iron and steel works employment continued good on the whole and showed a further slight improvement. In the engineering trades also employment was better in March than in February.

In the tinplate trade employment continued good, apart from stoppages resulting from the strike of steel workers in South Wales. In the other metal trades employment was good on the whole.

In the cotton trade employment was good and rather better in March than in February, but there were some stoppages owing to shortage of fuel. In the woollen and worsted trades it continued good, though shortage of worsted spinners and combers resulted in short time in the wool sorting department.

In the brick trade employment was generally good in March, and there was an improvement on the previous month in some districts. The cement trade continued to be well-employed, and much overtime was worked. In the building trades employment continued good, and better than in February.

As regards agricultural labour, there was still a fairly general demand for skilled men; for others demand and supply were about equal. In the fishing industry employment continued good generally, with notable exceptions in Scotland.

The general position, as indicated in the above paragraphs, is shown in further detail in the statistical Tables on the following page and in the detailed reports on the principal industries which follow them.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN INSURED TRADES.

The following Table shows the number of persons insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Acts, 1911 to 1916, and the number of persons whose unemployment books or out-of-work donation policies remained lodged* at 26th March, 1920. Further particulars relating to the donation scheme for ex-service men are given separately on page 172.

Table with 6 main columns: Trade, Males, Females, Total, Males, Females, Total. It lists various trades such as Building, Works Construction, Shipbuilding, Engineering, etc., with their respective numbers insured and unemployed as of January 14th and 26th March 1920.

In the following Table are given the unemployment percentages based on the figures given above, together with the increase or decrease as compared with 27th February, 1920:—

Table with 6 main columns: Trade, Males, Females, Total, Males, Females, Total. It provides percentage unemployment figures and changes compared to 27th February 1920 for the same trades as in the previous table.

* Payment of unemployment benefit or out-of-work donation is conditional on the "lodging" of an unemployed person's insurance book or Donation Policy. † Excluding workpeople insured under the National Insurance Act of 1911.

TRADE UNION MEMBERS UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 1,567,170 reported 17,276 (or 1.1 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of March, 1920. Details are given below.

Table with 5 main columns: Trade, Member-ship at end of March, 1920, Percentage Unemployed at end of March, 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage Unemployed as compared with a. It lists trades like Building, Coal Mining, Engineering, etc., showing membership, unemployment percentages, and changes.

SUMMARY OF EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Information as to the state of employment in March, derived from Returns furnished by employers, is summarised in the Tables given below:—

(a) CERTAIN MINING AND METAL TRADES.

Table with 5 main columns: Trade, Workpeople included in the Returns for Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a. It focuses on mining and metal trades like Coal Mining, Iron, Shale, Pig Iron, etc.

(b) OTHER TRADES.

Table with 7 main columns: Trade, Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a. It covers various other trades like Textiles, Boot and Shoe, Shirt and Collar, etc.

* Short time and broken time are not reflected in the figures. † Based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers. ‡ Revised figure for March, 1919. § Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages. ¶ Including some barytes and fluor-spar mining, carried on in conjunction with lead and zinc mining.

DETAILED REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[NOTE.—The numbers given in the following Tables represent the numbers of workpeople covered by the Returns received and not the total numbers employed in the various industries.]

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued good. At the collieries making Returns in March there was an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed as compared with the previous month, and of 3.4 per cent. on a year ago.

Of the 616,769 workpeople included in the Returns for March, 323,926 (or 52.5 per cent.) were employed at pits working 12* days during the fortnight to which the Returns relate, and a further 224,066 (or 36.3 per cent.) at pits working 11 days or more, but less than 12 days.

The average number of days (5.72) worked per week for the whole of the United Kingdom showed a slight decline on the previous month, partly accounted for by a series of strikes in South Wales. Comparison with a year ago is affected by disputes which took place at that time in Nottinghamshire.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople employed and the average number of days worked per week by the collieries covered by the Returns received.

Table with 5 main columns: District, No. of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns, Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines. It lists districts like Northumberland, Durham, South Yorkshire, etc., with employment figures and average days worked.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good at iron and shale mines and fair at tin mines. At lead and zinc mines there was an improvement, and except from Derbyshire reports were good on the average. At the quarries conditions were again good on the whole, and there was an improvement at the china clay quarries. Quarrymen were still in demand. Complaints of insufficiency of railway wagons were less frequent.

MINING.

Iron.—Returns received relating to mines and open works at which 18,326 workpeople were employed in the fortnight ended 27th March, 1920, show a decrease in the total number employed of 0.2 per cent. on the previous month, and an increase of 4.9 per cent. on a year ago.

* The figures in this and the following article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, ore or shale was got or drawn from the mines or open works included in the Returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day the mines or works were open. † Affected by disputes.

The average number of days worked per week by the mines was 5.91, compared with 5.90 in the previous month, and 5.81 a year ago. In the following Table the Returns received are summarised by districts:—

Table with 5 main columns: Districts, No. of Workpeople employed at Mines included in the Returns, Average No. of Days worked per week by the Mines. It lists districts like Cleveland, Cumberland and Lancashire, Scotland, etc., with employment figures and average days worked.

Shale.—The Returns received from firms employing workpeople in the fortnight ended 27th March, 1920, show that the number employed was 5.2 per cent. greater than in the previous month, but 5.2 per cent. less than a year ago. The average number of days per week worked by the mines was 5.97, a decrease of 0.03 compared with February, 1920, and of 0.09 compared with March, 1919.

Tin.—Returns from tin mines employing 2,007 workpeople at the end of March show that the number employed was 3.2 per cent. more than in the previous month, but 4.4 per cent. less than in March, 1919. The total amount paid in wages at these mines was £20,495 in four weeks in March, 1920, an increase of 11.2 per cent. on a month earlier, and of 10.7 per cent. on a year earlier.

Employment continued fair in the Camborne and Redruth districts, a slight improvement being reported. At St. Just conditions continued moderate.

Lead and Zinc.—Returns have been received from lead and zinc mines (including some which also produce barytes, fluor spar, etc.) employing 497 workpeople in March. These returns show that the number of workpeople employed at the end of March, 1920, was 0.6 per cent. more than in February, 1920, but 0.6 per cent. less than in March, 1919, while the total amount paid in wages to all workpeople employed at these mines was £5,372 in four weeks in March, 1920, an increase of 2.2 per cent. on a month earlier, and an increase of 9.6 per cent. on a year earlier.†

From the Welsh mines reports were fairly good on the whole. At Darley Dale employment was reported as quiet, the dispute still continuing. In Durham there was a further improvement and employment was very good. In the Scottish district, it was again good, and more miners could be absorbed.

QUARRING.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with 5 main columns: District, No. of Workpeople employed at Quarries included in the Returns, Average No. of Days worked per week by the Quarries. It lists districts like ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, UNITED KINGDOM, with employment figures and average days worked.

Limestone.—As in February, employment was good at quarries producing limestone for blast furnaces and for cement, and fairly good at other quarries. Bad weather hindered work to some extent.

Sandstone.—Employment was good at grindstone quarries and paving-stone quarries, an improvement on the previous month in the latter case. At other quarries it continued fairly good. A shortage of labour of all grades was again reported.

Granite (Road Material, Setts, etc.).—Employment remained good at quarries for road-making material and

* See note* at foot of previous column. † Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

fairly good at quarries for paving setts, etc. There were complaints of shortage of railway wagons, and more labour, skilled and unskilled, could have been employed.

State.—Employment in North Wales was fairly good. Basalt and Whinstone (Road Material).—At basalt quarries employment was again good; at whinstone quarries it was only fair, a slight decline compared with February.

China Clay.—At St. Austell conditions continued to improve and employment was reported as fair. At Lee Moor also there was an improvement, to good.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally during March. The general shortage of fuel continued, and a shortage of material was reported by many firms, attributed in several instances to a scarcity of railway wagons. A few employers reported a scarcity of labour.

At the works covered by the Returns received, 263 furnaces were in blast at the end of March, as compared with 255 in February, and 267 in March, 1919.

Table with columns: District, Number of Furnaces in blast at end of, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in March on a, March 1920, Feb. 1920, March 1919, Month ago, Year ago.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works during March continued good on the whole. In South Wales and Monmouthshire there was a strike of steelworkers, but it was reported that normal working had been restored during the latter part of the month.

At works, employing 124,566 workpeople, to which the Table below relates, the volume of available employment (as indicated by the number of workpeople employed at each works, multiplied by the number of shifts during which work was carried on) during the week ended 27th March, 1920, showed an increase of 2.1 per cent. on the previous month and of 11.8 per cent. on March, 1919.

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns, Aggregate number of Shifts, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Month ago, Year ago, Per cent., Per cent.

* The figures relate to the number of shifts during which the works were operated, allowance being made for the numbers of men employed. No account is taken of time lost by individuals and it is not intended to imply that the full number of shifts shown was worked.

Table with columns: DISTRICTS, No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns, Aggregate number of Shifts, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a, Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Month ago, Year ago, Per cent., Per cent.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades showed a further improvement during March, and in some districts the effect of the moulders' dispute was no longer felt to any great extent.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Act at 14th January, and the total number claiming unemployment benefit or out-of-work donation at 26th March:—

Table with columns: Division, Numbers Insured at 14th Jan., 1920, Number of Unemployment Books and Out-of-Work Donation Policies Lodged at 26th Mar., 1920, Percentage Unemployed at 26th Mar., 1920, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 27th Feb., 1920.

Although better than in February, employment on the Tyne and Wear continued to be adversely affected by the shortage of material, a considerable number of workpeople being still unemployed or on short time. On the Tees it remained fairly good on the whole.

Employment at Leeds showed a further improvement during March, and at Wakefield engineers were well employed. At Bradford, Huddersfield and Hull, employment remained good.

At Birmingham employment showed a further improvement, and at Wolverhampton it continued good on the whole, although a certain amount of short time was experienced owing to lack of material.

* Owing to the fact that the numbers of policies shown are based on payments they differ slightly from the numbers actually unemployed.

Conditions at Glasgow showed a slight improvement on the whole, some demand being reported for turners and machinemen, but not for fitters. In the East of Scotland employment remained fairly good, although a decline was noted at Aberdeen. At Belfast it was reported as moderate and at Cork as fair.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades remained good on the whole during March, and showed an improvement compared with the previous month. A scarcity of steel plates, &c., resulted in occasional loss of time.

On the Tyne and Wear employment was good with all branches, and on the Tyne it was better than in February. At Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Stockton employment, as in February, was good on new work, but only fair on repair work, while at Hull a considerable number of men were out of employment.

At Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Wivenhoe employment continued to be good. It was fairly good on the Thames and showed a slight improvement on the previous month. At some of the South-Western ports employment was still slack. Shipwrights at Bristol were well employed, and overtime was frequently worked.

Employment on the Clyde was good on the whole, but it was somewhat adversely affected by shortage of material. It remained good with shipwrights at Aberdeen and Dundee, and improved to fair with painters at Leith.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Act at 14th January, and the total number claiming unemployment benefit or out-of-work donation at 26th March:—

Table with columns: Division, Number Insured at 14th Jan., 1920, Number of Unemployment Books and Out-of-Work Donation Policies Lodged at 26th Mar., 1920, Percentage Unemployed at 26th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with 27th Feb., 1920.

TINPLATE AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued good on the whole, but was affected by stoppages which occurred at a number of works in consequence of the shortage of steel bars caused by the strike of steel workers in South Wales.

Table with columns: Works, Number of Works open, Number of Mills in operation, At end of March, 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month ago, Year ago, At end of March, 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month ago, Year ago.

* Owing to the fact that the numbers of policies shown are based on payments they differ slightly from the numbers actually unemployed.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, but the South Wales steel workers' strike in the early part of the month caused a shortage of material in some sections.

Brasswork.—Employment was again good on the whole. Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—At Blackheath, Halesowen, and Darlaston employment with nut, bolt, and rivet makers continued good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—Employment continued good in the cutlery and file trades at Sheffield and in the edge tool trade at Wednesbury.

Chains, Anchors, &c.—At Cradley employment with anchor smiths continued good, with block chain makers it was only fairly good.

Sheet Metal Workers.—At Birmingham employment was fair, and a considerable amount of unemployment was reported; elsewhere it was good generally.

Wire.—Employment continued good generally, though a shortage of material was reported from Warrington, Norwich, and Ambergate; at the latter place short time was temporarily resorted to.

Hollow-ware.—In the Midlands galvanised hollow-ware trade employment was only fairly good, the shortage of material continuing.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment continued good generally, but at Leeds, Luton, and Norwich a shortage of material was reported.

COTTON TRADE.

DURING March employment in this trade was good, both in spinning and weaving departments, and rather better than a month earlier and a year ago; but several mills were stopped for short periods owing to shortage of coal.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:—

Table with columns: DEPARTMENTS, Number of Workpeople, Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople, Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month ago, Year ago, Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month ago, Year ago, Per cent., Per cent.

* Bonuses varying from £4 to £9 a month for adults and from £1 to £4 10s. for juniors have been paid to workpeople in the cotton trade in monthly instalments since January last. The figures given as to the amount of wages paid are exclusive of the monthly instalments of these bonuses.

In the Oldham district employment in both the spinning and weaving sections was good, and better than in February; in the cardrooms there was a shortage of workpeople. In the Bolton district employment was good in all sections. In the weaving districts of Preston, Blackburn and Burnley great activity continued, and there was still a considerable demand for labour.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

In this trade employment during March continued good. The following Table shows the total number of workpeople employed, and the total amount of wages paid to these workpeople, by the firms furnishing returns to the Department, in the week ended 27th March, 1920, and gives comparative figures for the same firms for the previous month and for a year ago.

Table showing wool trade statistics including Departments (Wool Sorting, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), Districts (Huddersfield, Leeds, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

In the Huddersfield and heavy woollen districts the operatives were well employed; some overtime and night work were reported in the weaving section, and the machinery in the preparing departments in many mills was run night and day. At Leeds employment continued good, and overtime was worked especially by willeys, fettlers and warpdressers. In the flannel districts of Lancashire and in Scotland employment continued good and a shortage of female labour was reported.

WORSTED TRADE.

In this trade also employment continued good, but there was still a shortage of labour in the wool combing and worsted spinning departments which caused short time in the wool-sorting department. A shortage of weavers and menders was also reported in some cases.

In the Bradford district the operatives continued well employed, and there was some improvement in the weaving section owing to better supplies of yarn. In the Keighley, Halifax and Huddersfield districts employment also continued good, but the supply of labour was generally insufficient, especially in the mending and weaving departments.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table showing worsted trade statistics including Departments (Wool Sorting and Combing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), Districts (Belfast, Total Ireland, Fifehire, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

Table showing hosiery trade statistics including Districts (Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, etc.), Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

HOSIERY TRADE.

DURING March employment continued good in this trade. About a quarter of the returns received reported a shortage of female labour.

The following table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:-

Table showing hosiery trade statistics including Districts (Leicester, Leicester Country Dist., Nottingham and Derbyshire, etc.), Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

At Leicester and in the surrounding district employment continued good, and was better than in March, 1919. In the Nottingham and Derby district the supplies of yarn were still insufficient, but the operatives were on the whole well employed in both the power frame and hand frame sections.

In Scotland employment continued good.

LINEN TRADE.

DURING March short time was still generally worked in Ireland, principally owing to continued shortage of raw material. Employment on the whole was slack, and worse than a month earlier.

In Scotland employment was reported as good at Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy and Brechin. The supply of labour, especially female labour, was unequal to the demand.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table showing linen trade statistics including DEPARTMENTS (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), DISTRICTS (Belfast, Total Ireland, Fifehire, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

JUTE TRADE.

In this trade employment in Dundee and the surrounding district continued good. A shortage of labour was reported, and in the Forfar district there was still a scarcity of yarn. The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table showing jute trade statistics including Departments (Preparing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment during March continued good, and was better than in March, 1919.

In the Macclesfield and Congleton districts employment continued good; at Leek some short time was reported, but employment on the whole was fair. In the West Riding the operatives were fully employed, and there was a considerable shortage of labour. In the Eastern Counties employment continued good at Norwich, Yarmouth, Halstead and Braintree, and fair at Sudbury.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished returns:-

Table showing silk trade statistics including BRANCHES (Throwing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.), DISTRICTS (Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire, Macclesfield, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

LACE TRADE.

In this trade employment during March continued good, and was better than in March, 1919. The shortage of cotton yarns caused short or irregular time in some districts.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:-

Table showing lace trade statistics including Branches (Levers, Curtain, Plain Net, etc.), Districts (Nottingham City, Long Eaton, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

In the Nottingham district employment continued good in the levers, curtain and plain net branches, and was generally better than a year earlier; some irregular time was reported in the levers branch owing partly to shortage of yarn. In the Long Eaton district some short time was reported and employment, though fair on the whole, was not so good as in February. In Scotland, employment continued good and there was a shortage of female labour.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

DURING March, employment on the whole was fairly good in these trades and slightly better than a month earlier. About a quarter of the employers who furnished Returns reported insufficient supplies of coal and of dyestuffs.

The following Table summarises the information received:-

Table showing bleaching, printing, dyeing and finishing trade statistics including Trades (Bleaching, Printing, Dyeing, etc.), Districts (Yorkshire, Lancashire, Scotland, etc.), and Totals for Week ended 27th Mar. 1920, Month ago, and Year ago.

In the bleaching section employment showed a considerable improvement on February; some overtime was reported in the lace section. In the printing section, employment continued good in England and was better than a year earlier; in Scotland it was also good. With woollen and worsted dyers, employment on the whole was fairly good but some short time was reported. With cotton dyers employment was fairly good, and showed some improvement as compared with a month earlier. In the trimming and finishing trades in the Leicester and Nottingham districts employment was fair; some short time was reported in the Nottingham district.

CARPET TRADE.

During March employment continued good in all the principal districts, and was better than a year ago. Shortage of raw material caused slackness in some districts, and the supply of certain classes of female labour was insufficient.

Returns from firms employing 6,920 workpeople in the week ended 27th March, and paying £215,450 in wages, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month earlier. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 31.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 76.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.*

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during March continued good on the whole. Trade unions with 17,459 members reported 0.8 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of March, compared with 1.2 per cent. in February and 2.1 per cent. in March, 1919.

Skippers and carriers were fairly well employed, and a little overtime was occasionally worked by the latter. With tanners employment showed a decline, and short time was reported from Bristol.

Employment with saddlers and harness makers was only moderate in London and Walsall, some short time being worked in the latter district; at Leeds it was good and better than in February. In the fancy leather trade employment continued good.

Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

DURING March employment continued fairly good on the whole, but there was a considerable amount of short time due partly to a falling off in trade.

At Leicester employment on the whole continued fair, but a considerable number of operatives were on short time during the month. At Northampton and in the surrounding district short time was general. At Kettering employment continued fair and there was an unsatisfied demand for women in the closing and packing rooms. At Stafford and Norwich employment was reported as good; at Bristol, Kingswood and Leeds it was only moderate. In Scotland generally employment continued good.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns: District, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Total Wages Paid to all Workpeople (£, Per cent., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

DURING March employment in this trade continued good, and was better than in March, 1919. More than half the Returns received reported a shortage of female labour, particularly in London, Manchester and Glasgow.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns: District, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Total wages paid to all Workpeople (£, Per cent., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

FELT HAT TRADE.

In this trade employment continued good on the whole, but, owing to the continued shortage of female labour, some short-time was worked by the male operatives. At Denton 25 per cent. of the trade union operatives were on overtime at the end of March, while the same percentage was on short-time owing to the shortage of women trimmers. At Stockport a little short-time was reported, but employment was good and better than a year ago; in Warwickshire it also continued good.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

TAILORING TRADE.

BESPOKE.

London.—Employment during March continued fairly good. Returns from firms paying £13,252 in wages to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 27th March, showed an increase of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month, and of 17.7* per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as good at Sheffield, Nottingham, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Belfast, and as fair at Liverpool, Birmingham and Cork.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment during March continued fair and on the whole was better than in March, 1919, except in London, where the decline shown was due to the diminution of army work. About a third of the firms making Returns reported a shortage of women and girls.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns: District, Indoor Workpeople (Number of Workpeople, Total Wages Paid to all Indoor Workpeople), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago.

At Leeds employment showed a further slight improvement compared with February, but was reported to be still adversely affected by the high price of cloth, and some short time was worked during the month; the supply of female labour was still insufficient. At Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow, employment on the whole continued good. In London employment was fair on the whole, and showed little change as compared with a month earlier; it was not so good as a year ago, a considerable amount of short time being reported.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

EMPLOYMENT with all classes of dressmakers in London continued fairly good during March and was better than in March, 1919. A shortage of skilled labour was reported. Returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,873 dressmakers in the week ended 27th March, showed an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with February and of 18.6 per cent. compared with March, 1919. Employment with milliners in the West End continued fairly good and was better than a year ago; the supply of skilled labour was insufficient.

WHOLESALE MANTLE, COSTUME, BLOUSE, &c., TRADES.

In London employment continued fairly good during March and was better on the whole than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 4,020 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 27th March showed an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with February and of 13.7 per cent. compared with March, 1919.

In Manchester employment continued fairly good, and there was little change compared with the preceding month. Returns from firms employing 3,655 workpeople in the week ended 27th March showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with February and of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year earlier.

In Glasgow returns from firms employing 1,998 workpeople in the week ended 27th March showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with February and of 5.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during March was good; 4 per cent. of the workpeople reported on were on short time during the month compared with the 12 per cent. during February.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the building trade was good during March and continued to improve generally. A marked shortage of carpenters, bricklayers and, to a smaller extent, of other skilled workmen was again reported from many districts, especially those in which work on housing schemes had been commenced. The usual seasonal improvement was noticeable with painters, who were well employed at the end of the month. No short time was reported, except through bad weather in some districts. Overtime was worked in exceptional circumstances in a few towns. Work was somewhat hindered in many districts by the difficulty in obtaining building materials which was stated to be largely due to delay in transport.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Act at 14th January, 1920, and the total number registered for unemployment insurance or out-of-work donation at 26th March, 1920:—

Table with columns: OCCUPATIONS, Numbers Insured at 14th Jan., 1920, Number of Unemployment Books and Donation Policies Issued at 26th March, 1920, Percentage unemployed at 26th March, 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-), as compared with 27th Feb., 1920.

There was a continued shortage of women and girls in all the above three centres, especially of skilled machinists.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment in this trade continued good during March. Returns from firms, mainly in England, employing 5,878 workpeople in their factories in the week ended 27th March showed an increase of 2.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with February and of 18.5 per cent. compared with a year ago; the supply of skilled labour was still insufficient.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good throughout March, and was a little better, on the whole, than in the previous month. Returns were received from Trade Unions covering 97,446 workpeople, of whom 0.2 per cent. were stated to be unemployed in March, as compared with 0.4 per cent. in February and 2.2 in March, 1919.

Mill Sawing and Machining.—Employment was again fairly good in this trade, being similar to the previous month. It was reported as good in several districts, and overtime was worked in some shops at Birmingham.

Furnishing.—Except at Norwich, where abnormal conditions prevailed owing to the occurrence of a strike, employment remained good for all classes of workpeople in this trade. A shortage of skilled men was reported from Birmingham.

Coach Building.—Workpeople in this trade were again well employed generally, and a shortage of skilled men was experienced in some districts. Overtime continued at several centres, but some short time was reported from Lincoln.

Coopering.—In this trade the previous month's standard was well maintained, there being a steady demand for men. A further improvement was reported from some districts, and overtime continued to be worked in several centres.

Miscellaneous.—Employment for brushmakers was again good and showed a slight improvement on the previous month. It was fairly good for basketmakers and wheelwrights and smiths, but short time was reported for the latter class at Lincoln and Grantham. It was fair, on the whole, for packing-case makers, who also worked short time in some districts.

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

BRICK TRADE.

Employment was generally good during March and in some districts there was a slight improvement compared with the previous month. It continued good in the Peterborough, Nottingham and Birmingham districts and improved to good at Stourbridge. At Ipswich employment was fair, but in Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire a considerable improvement was reported. Brickmakers were fairly well employed in Denbigh and Flint, but employment was still reported as slack at Bridgwater.

A scarcity of labour was reported by a few employers, mainly in the West Midlands where overtime was occasionally worked. Complaints were also received from this district as to a shortage of fuel.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Table with columns: Districts, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Total wages paid to all Workpeople (£, Per cent., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

CEMENT TRADE.

Employment continued very good and a considerable amount of overtime was worked especially in the Thames and Medway district where a shortage of transport was reported. A few firms reported a scarcity of labour, and complaints of a shortage of fuel were occasionally received.

Returns from firms employing 8,968 workpeople in the week ended 27th March showed an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 3.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 55.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 94.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good in all branches of the pottery trade during March, and a shortage of various forms of skilled labour was reported by some firms. A shortage of fuel was frequently mentioned, and inadequate supplies of raw materials such as clay, flint, etc., were also reported. Employment among stoneware pottery operatives in Scotland was affected during the latter part of the month by a strike.

Table with columns: BRANCHES, Number of Workpeople (Week ended 27th Mar., 1920, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago), Total wages paid to all workpeople (£, Per cent., Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago, Year ago).

* Owing to the fact that the numbers of policies shown are based on payments, they differ slightly from the numbers actually unemployed. † Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good during March and showed a slight improvement on the whole as compared with the previous month, this being due to activity in the glass bottle trade. A shortage of labour, especially of skilled men, was reported by several firms in various districts, and the supply of fuel was still in some cases inadequate.

Glass bottle makers continued to be well employed in all the principal districts. With flint glass makers and cutters, employment was reported as good or very good generally, some overtime having been worked by cutters in the Birmingham district. Employment continued good with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham and overtime was worked in some shops. It improved to good with pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear, and remained good with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

BRANCHES.	Number of Workpeople.		Total Wages paid to all Workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.*	
				Month ago.	Year ago.*
Glass Bottle	8,147	+ 2'8	26,035	+ 6'3	+ 74'2
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	2,229	+ 0'2	6,244	+ 2'2	+ 40'2
Other Branches	710	- 1'5	1,665	+ 0'2	+ 36'8
TOTAL	11,086	+ 2'0	33,944	+ 5'2	+ 64'6
DISTRICTS.					
North of England	852	- 0'7	2,464	- 1'3	+ 61'0
Yorkshire	5,931	+ 4'1	18,463	+ 8'8	+ 68'3
Lancashire	1,527	- 1'5	4,257	+ 0'9	+ 86'5
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	645	- 0'3	1,977	+ 2'4	+ 38'7
Scotland	1,225	- 0'3	3,964	+ 5'4	+ 72'3
Other parts of the United Kingdom	906	+ 1'7	2,819	- 2'3	+ 33'7
TOTAL	11,086	+ 2'0	33,944	+ 5'2	+ 64'6

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during March in the paper, printing and bookbinding trades generally was good, and about the same as in the previous month. It was better, on the whole, than in March of last year.

Employment with letterpress printers continued good; it was better than in February with compositors in London, and a considerable amount of overtime was worked; there was little change in the provinces, overtime being worked occasionally. In the lithographic printing trade employment remained good generally, and a little overtime was reported.

Employment in the bookbinding trade was good, and slightly better than in the previous month. Some overtime was worked both in London and in the provinces.

In the paper trade employment continued good, a slight improvement being reported from some districts. It was much better, on the whole, than in March of last year.

The following Table summarises the Returns received from Trade Unions relating to employment:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of March, 1920.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on a	
		March, 1920.	Feb., 1920.	March, 1919.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Printing	64,225	0'9	0'7	3'1	+ 0'2	- 2'2
Bookbinding	12,626	0'9	1'0	2'9	- 0'1	- 2'0

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

	Number of Workpeople.		Total wages paid to all workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.*	
				Month ago.	Year ago.*
Paper	12,390	+ 1'6	36,216	+ 3'3	+ 67'1
Printing	9,886	+ 1'5	32,989	+ 3'1	+ 56'8
Bookbinding	5,795	+ 1'0	12,859	+ 2'0	+ 54'5
TOTAL	28,071	+ 1'4	82,064	+ 5'1	+ 60'8

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the food preparation trades during March was fairly good, but showed some decline as compared with the previous month.

In the sugar refining industry and the cocoa, chocolate and confectionery trades employment remained good, with some overtime, and in the latter group of trades a little short time. In the biscuit and cake making trades it was fair, and a decline in the numbers employed was reported by several firms.

In the jam and marmalade trades a lack of fruit and sugar was reported, and a number of jam manufacturers are unable to employ their full complement of workpeople until the new season commences.

There was a considerable reduction in the number employed in the preserved meat trades.

The following Table summarises the information received from those employers who furnished Returns:—

Trade.	Number of workpeople.		Total wages paid to all workpeople.		
	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 27th Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.*	
				Month ago.	Year ago.*
Sugar Refining, etc. ..	7,087	+ 2'6	24,441	+ 9'8	+ 23'8
Cocoa, Chocolate, and Sugar Confectionery ..	26,924	+ 2'3	61,959	- 2'8	+ 83'3
Biscuits, Cakes, etc. ..	14,468	- 6'0	32,572	+ 1'5	+ 45'4
Jams, Marmalade, etc. ..	8,346	- 9'0	16,520	- 5'6	+ 8'7
Bacon and Preserved Meats	3,689	- 8'2	8,054	- 2'8	+ 19'4
Pickles and Sauces, etc. ..	806	+ 0'5	1,509	+ 5'0	+ 31'7
TOTAL	61,320	- 2'0	145,055	- 0'2	+ 41'6

AGRICULTURE.†

ENGLAND AND WALES.

A CONTINUANCE of favourable weather conditions in most districts allowed further considerable progress to be made with agricultural work during March, though in the north and west rain again hindered operations at the end of the month. Corn sowing was generally nearing completion, and potato planting was in full swing in many districts in the southern half of the country.

In a few counties—Lancashire, Cheshire, and parts of Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, temporary labour was in demand for the latter type of work, but with these exceptions the supply was practically everywhere equal to the demand, and in parts of Norfolk, Berkshire, and a few of the southern counties some ordinary workers remained unemployed.

More skilled men were still wanted in nearly all parts of the country. Horsemen and cattlemen were scarce in several of the midland and south-western counties, and hedgers and thatchers were in demand in Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire. There was a general shortage of skilled workers in South Wales.

SCOTLAND.

Skilled workers were scarce in Dumfries, and horsemen and cattlemen were in much demand in parts of the Highlands. Shortages of casual labour were reported from Caithness and from some of the south-western counties, but the labour supply was usually about sufficient in most districts.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, with some exceptions at Scottish ports.

The following table shows the quantity and value of fish landed in Great Britain in March, 1920. Statistics for Ireland are not yet available.

	Quantity of fish landed.			Value.		
	March, 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on		March, 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on	
		March, 1919.	March, 1913.		March, 1919.	March, 1913.
Fish (other than shell) :-	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£	£
England and Wales	918,345	+ 632,856	+ 199,230	1,757,353	+ 494,531	+ 1,083,603
Scotland	321,833	+ 110,908	- 42,094	463,929	- 20,056	+ 288,272
Total	1,238,178	+ 643,764	+ 157,136	2,221,282	+ 474,475	+ 1,371,875
Shell Fish	-	-	-	63,297	+ 18,505	+ 34,890
Total Value	-	-	-	2,284,579	+ 492,979	+ 1,406,805

* Comparison of earnings is affected by increases in rates of wages. † Based on information supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

East and South Coasts.—Employment in the Tees and Hartlepool district was again good. At Hull, Grimsby and Lowestoft conditions were again good throughout, except with fish curers at Lowestoft, with whom employment, although improving, was only fair. At Great Yarmouth employment continued fairly good generally. In the Devon and Cornwall district it was fairly good.

Scotland.—At Aberdeen employment remained good; at Peterhead it remained good with fish curers, but declined to fair with fishermen and bad with fish dock labourers. At Fraserburgh employment was bad in all branches, and at Macduff it was fair; in both cases there was a decline as compared with the previous month.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

London.—Employment during March was fairly good. It was much better than in March, 1919. The following Table shows the average number of labourers employed at the docks and at the principal wharves in London in March, 1920, as compared with the previous month and with a year earlier:—

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, etc.	Total.		
Week ended—					
6th March	9,894	4,096	13,990	9,465	23,455
13th "	9,865	3,764	13,729	9,385	23,114
20th "	9,998	3,922	13,920	9,461	23,381
27th "	9,679	3,832	13,511	9,182	22,693
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th Mar., 1920.	9,884	3,904	13,788	9,373	23,161
Average for Feb., 1920	10,481	4,207	14,688	9,498	24,186
Average for Mar., 1919	6,736	2,536	9,272	7,285	16,547

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks in March was 2,609, compared with 2,526 in February and 1,772 in March, 1919.

East Coast.—On the Tyne and Wear the improvement reported last month was not maintained, and employment was only fair. It continued good at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, and was fairly good at Stockton. It had improved to fair at Grimsby and was good at Hull. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment showed some improvement, and was fair on the whole.

Southern and Western Ports.—Employment at Plymouth showed considerable improvement and was good, but remained quiet at most of the other South-Western ports, and was slack at Bristol. It was fairly good at the South Wales ports, and better than in February. At Liverpool employment was fair; the average weekly number of dock labourers employed during the four weeks ended 22nd March, 1920, was 21,906, compared with 23,065 in the four weeks ended 23rd February and with 17,462 in the corresponding period of 1919.

Scottish and Irish Ports.—At Glasgow and Dundee employment was fair. It continued good at Belfast, had improved to fair at Limerick, and was fair at Cork.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES.

The preliminary statistics of the work of Employment Exchanges during the four weeks ended 1st April, 1920, show a further continuous decline in the number of workpeople on the Live Register. The decline is most noticeable in the Men's Department, which accounts for 63,032 out of a total decline during the four weeks of 68,972.

The decline amongst men is most pronounced in engineering and metal trades, but considerable decreases occurred in the building and transport trades and among general labourers.

As a result of the steel strike in South Wales there was a heavy increase in registrations for the week ended 12th March, 1920. In the following week, however, the figure returned to its normal level and subsequently declined concurrently with the Live Register.

Both vacancies notified and vacancies filled show an appreciable decline as compared with the figures for the previous four weeks, but, as the individual weekly totals indicate, the decline is largely accounted for by the near approach of the Easter Holidays.

The following Table summarises the work of the

SEAMEN.

The state of employment among seamen in March was moderate, as in February, the supply of men generally continuing fully equal to or in excess of demand. Towards the end of the month the approach of the Easter holidays was responsible for a revival in several districts, but at the majority of ports there was no appreciable change. Employment was a little better for coloured men on the whole, although a considerable number were still out of work.

The improvement experienced on the Thames in the previous month was not maintained, and a slight decline was shown in March. No marked change was observed at the ports on the north-east coast, the shortage of export coal being again responsible for a certain amount of slackness. Employment at Hull showed a further improvement, but no change was experienced at Goole, where it remained poor. Conditions improved slightly at Southampton, but employment was still only moderate. At certain of the Bristol Channel ports, however, the demand for white stokehold ratings was very brisk, more than equalling the supply. Employment at Liverpool remained as in February, but on the Clyde it was brisker, the improvement being most marked towards the end of the month. At the ports on the east coast of Scotland employment was very quiet, and a number of men either left the district or joined the fishing industry. Employment at Cork improved to fair, but at Dublin and Belfast it remained poor.

The following Table shows the number of seamen shipped on British-registered foreign-going vessels at the principal ports during March:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped.					
	Mar., 1920.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Three months ended.		
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Mar., 1920.	Mar., 1919.	Mar., 1913.
ENGLAND & WALES:						
<i>East Coast—</i>						
Tyne Ports	1,765	- 44	+ 309	5,107	3,646	7,051
Sunderland	352	+ 69	+ 21	865	933	963
Middlesbrough	485	+ 295	+ 395	1,088	620	1,082
Hull	1,160	+ 267	+ 199	3,143	2,531	3,916
Grimsby .. ..	..	..	- 42	..	126	177
<i>Bristol Channel—</i>						
Bristol	1,849	+ 794	+ 1,155	3,973	1,811	2,722
Newport, Mon.	1,102	- 34	+ 402	3,176	2,588	2,839
Cardiff	2,884	- 100	- 391	8,856	10,014	11,975
Swansea	162	- 309	- 94	1,215	1,011	1,080
<i>Other Ports—</i>						
Liverpool	11,331	- 688	- 2,368	34,271	40,245	44,324
London	9,362	+ 2,779	+ 2,776	23,991	15,504	23,116
Southampton	4,197	+ 1,381	+ 2,172	11,505	4,207	11,987
SCOTLAND:						
Leith	289	- 66	+ 6	948	954	1,254
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	242	+ 143	+ 221	525	130	827
Glasgow	2,171	- 302	+ 577	6,449	4,465	11,215
IRELAND:						
Dublin	14	- 79	- 104	231	304	158
Belfast	371	+ 149	+ 237	995	496	550
TOTAL	37,736	+ 4,257	+ 5,471	108,436	89,565	125,239

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals. † Including Avonmouth and Portishead. ‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

Exchanges during the four weeks ended 1st April, 1920:—

Week ended	Applications by		Vacancies Filled.	Applications outstanding at end of week.	
	Workpeople.	Employers.		From Workpeople.	From Employers.
12th March	67,033	33,616	21,723	412,198	99,959
18th March	58,937	31,247	21,332	391,738	101,071
26th March	56,775	33,378	22,265	369,742	105,106
1st April	45,649	25,209	16,890	356,413	106,249
TOTAL	228,394	123,950	82,260	-	-

It is not yet possible to analyse in detail the totals given above, but full statistical details are available for the four weeks ended 5th March, 1920, and the principal points that emerge are dealt with in the following notes:—

Applications from Workpeople.—The daily average number of applications from workpeople (10,863) during the

four weeks ended 5th March, 1920, showed a decrease of 2,028, or 15.7 per cent. below the previous month. Of this daily average, men accounted for 6,793, women for 2,605, and juveniles for 1,465. The decrease was common to all Departments, but was most pronounced amongst men and juveniles, where, in each case, it amounted to 18 per cent.; for women, a decrease of 8 per cent. was recorded.

The daily average number of applications from men showed a decrease in every industry with the exception of the metal trades, where an increase of 27 per cent. was recorded. The principal decreases occurred in engineering and ironfounding and building trades. Of the total applications, 20 per cent. were from men in the engineering and ironfounding trades, 15 per cent. in transport trades, 12 per cent. in building trades, and 19 per cent. from general unskilled factory workers.

There was a general decline in applications from women, notably amongst clerical workers and domestic servants. Of the total 52 per cent. were from domestic servants, 9 per cent. from clerical workers, and 11 per cent. from general unskilled factory workers.

Vacancies Notified.—The average daily number of vacancies notified by employers for the period ended 5th March, 1920, amounted to 5,551, as compared with 5,628 for the previous period. Of this daily average 2,597 were for men, 1,889 for women, and 1,065 for juveniles. Amongst men an increase of 2 per cent. was recorded, but amongst women and juveniles there were decreases of 5 per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively. Of the total vacancies notified for men 27 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 20 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding, 7 per cent. in the transport trades, and 13 per cent. for general labourers. Among women, the decrease in the daily average of vacancies notified was distributed amongst almost all industries; about 69 per cent. of the notifications were for domestic service and 8 per cent. for the dressmaking trades.

Vacancies Filled.—The average daily number of vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 5th March was 3,802 as compared with 3,911 during the previous month, and 4,633 during the corresponding period a year ago. In the men's department there was little change compared with the previous month; but the totals for women and juveniles show respective decreases of 4 per cent. and 10 per cent. Of the total vacancies filled for men, 24 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 20 per cent. in engineering and ironfounding, 8 per cent. in the transport trades, and 16 per cent. for general labourers, whilst of those filled for women, 66 per cent. were in domestic services and 6 per cent. in the dressmaking trades. The proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified was 68.5 per cent. as compared with 69.5 per cent. during the previous month.

With reference to juveniles, of the 9,775 vacancies filled by boys, 2,500 were in the transport trades, 2,091 in the engineering trades, and 718 in commercial and clerical

occupations; of the 7,990 vacancies filled by girls, 1,860 were in domestic service, 931 in commercial and clerical occupations, 794 in the transport trades, and 774 in the dressmaking trades. Of the total vacancies filled by juveniles 2,209, or 12 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

The following Tables show for men and for women, the number of applications from workpeople, vacancies notified and vacancies filled during the four weeks ended 5th March, and the number remaining on the Live Register at 5th March in the principal groups of trades:—

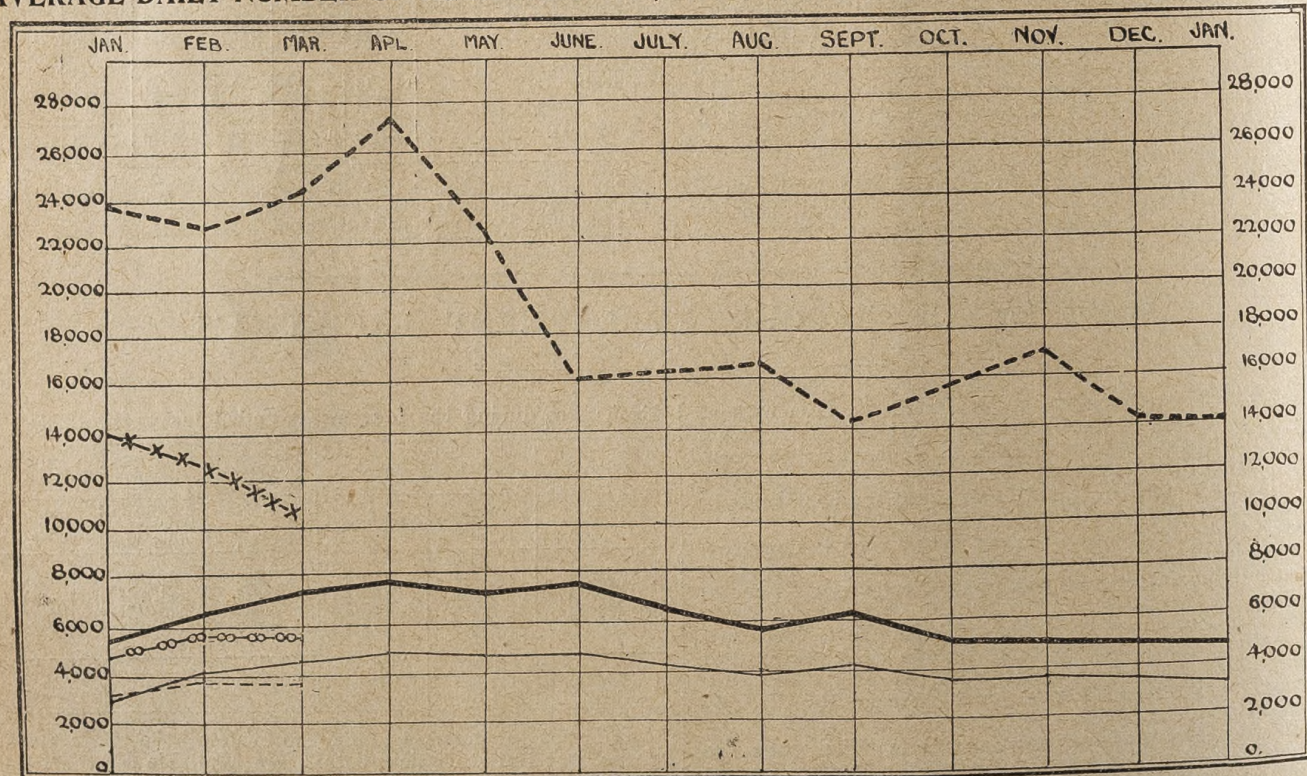
Group of Trades.*	Men.			
	Applications from workpeople.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building	17,188	18,505	14,225	8,992
Works of Construction ..	2,542	3,295	2,705	2,298
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	32,196	65,890	12,603	9,526
Shipbuilding	7,461	9,807	3,306	2,914
Construction of Vehicles ..	1,450	2,005	1,403	599
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ..	5,262	7,013	1,333	964
Domestic Service	5,284	14,831	1,706	1,363
Commercial and Clerical ..	7,744	21,031	2,307	1,997
Conveyance of Men, Goods, etc.	23,942	59,705	4,317	3,570
Agriculture	5,171	13,830	2,828	1,735
Textiles	3,222	7,199	1,949	792
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	3,018	7,813	733	536
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	2,351	6,385	431	314
General Labourers	30,926	75,767	8,358	7,637
All other Trades	15,264	38,098	5,164	3,357
TOTAL	163,021	350,914	62,318	47,144

Group of Trades.*	Women.			
	Applications from workpeople.	Live Register.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Engineering and Ironfounding ..	1,374	1,524	984	801
Miscellaneous Metal Trades ..	1,287	1,247	788	589
Domestic Service	32,423	21,619	31,375	17,521
Commercial and Clerical	5,454	8,044	1,489	866
Conveyance of Men, Goods, etc.	1,054	812	656	576
Agriculture	296	287	223	71
Textiles	2,749	1,820	2,166	1,224
Dress (including Boots and Shoes)	3,132	2,507	3,424	1,619
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	1,662	1,156	799	619
General Labourers	6,936	7,274	567	531
All other Trades	6,087	7,021	2,893	1,827
TOTAL	62,514	53,311	45,324	26,344

* Casual occupations (dock labourers and coal labourers) are excluded from this Table and from all other figures above. The number of casual jobs found for workpeople in these occupations during the period was 3,971.

The general trend of the figures since January, 1919, is brought out in the chart below:—

AVERAGE DAILY NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS, VACANCIES NOTIFIED AND VACANCIES FILLED.



--- REGISTRATIONS IN 1919. -x-x-x- REGISTRATIONS IN 1920.
 ——— VACANCIES NOTIFIED IN 1919. -o-o-o- VACANCIES NOTIFIED IN 1920.
 -x-x-x- VACANCIES FILLED IN 1919. -o-o-o- VACANCIES FILLED IN 1920.

NOTE.—The curves in this Chart are based on the figures of the General Register for a period ended early in the month stated at the head of the Chart.

CHANGES IN RATES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

Wages.

The changes in rates of wages reported as having been arranged to come into operation in March, with effect either from that month, or from earlier dates, resulted in a net increase of over £100,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 340,000 workpeople. The principal groups of industries in which the above workpeople were employed are shown in the following Table:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Net Increase per week.
Building	43,000	18,900
Metal	40,000	18,350
Transport (including employees of Local Authorities).	68,000	18,300
Paper Manufacture, Printing, etc.	36,000	8,100
Furniture and Woodworking	33,000	14,800
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	28,000	4,300
Other	91,000	26,600
TOTAL	337,000	104,300

The principal changes included in the statistics affected tramway employees and workpeople in the paper making, coachbuilding, flour milling, and leather producing industries, in all of which there were national movements in wages. The increases arranged for tramway employees were usually 5s. per week for those 18 years of age and over and 2s. 6d. per week for those under 18, but negotiations have been re-opened on an application from the workpeople for the grant of a further increase. In the paper-making trade the increases amounted to 1½d. per hour for men and 1d. per hour for women and youths. The minimum rates of coachbuilders were raised by amounts varying from 1d. to 3d. per hour, skilled grades in the larger centres receiving 2½d. or 3d. per hour. Men employed in flour mills received increases varying from 2s. to 5s. per week in Great Britain, and from 3s. to 7s. 6d. per week in Ireland. New scales of wages were adopted for workpeople in the tanning, currying, etc., industries.

Other important changes taking effect in March affected workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture in South Wales, who obtained an additional bonus of 40 per cent.; tailors and tailoresses in Scotland, where male piece-workers received an increase of 1d. per "log" hour; and lace workers in the plain net and curtain branches, for whom new standardised piece lists and uniform minimum time rates came into operation. Building trade operatives again obtained advances in numerous districts. In London there were important changes affecting electrical workers, tailors, and furniture trade operatives.

The minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts were increased in Great Britain in the corset and paper-bag making trades, and in Ireland in the tailoring, boot and shoe repairing, and paper box trades.

Of the increases taking effect in March seven, affecting 26,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; three,

affecting 8,000 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation; 13, affecting 27,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales; and the remaining 171, affecting 276,000 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives or took effect under Orders of Trade Boards. In 20 cases, involving 3,000 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN JANUARY—MARCH, 1920.

The following Table summarises the effect of all the changes in this period for which particulars are available:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Net Increase per week.	
		£	£
Building	196,000	60,000	1,800
Coal, Iron, etc., Mining	20,000	11,000	15,500
Quarrying	14,800	28,000	1,900
Pig Iron Manufacture	117,000	54,000	24,800
Iron and Steel Manufacture	117,000	15,300	15,300
Engineering and Shipbuilding	54,000	79,000	36,900
Other Metal	190,000	61,000	30,000
Textile	473,000	103,600	23,100
Clothing	103,600	40,000	17,500
Transport	37,000	7,000	7,000
Printing, Paper, etc.	94,000	23,100	23,100
Woodworking and Furniture	82,000	19,800	19,800
Glass, Brick, Pottery, etc.	74,000	16,700	16,700
Food, Drink and Tobacco	1,629,000	429,000	
Other Miscellaneous			
Public Utility Services			
TOTAL	1,629,000	429,000	

Hours.

The changes during March in the number of hours constituting a full ordinary week's work affected about 61,000 workpeople, whose hours were reduced by an average of about 6 per week. Of these changes, two, affecting nearly 2,000 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration, and the remaining 24 cases, affecting 59,000 workpeople, by direct negotiation. In three cases, involving 250 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. The principal changes affected workpeople in the jute and lace industries.

In the first three months of 1920 the changes reported have affected 258,000 workpeople, who have had an average reduction of nearly four hours per week. The trades chiefly concerned have been the clothing trades, accounting for 100,000 workpeople, the building trade, with over 90,000 workpeople, and the textile trades, with nearly 50,000 workpeople.

The statistics given above, both as regards wages and hours, are exclusive of changes affecting Government employees, domestic servants, agricultural labourers, shop assistants, and clerks, for which classes the information available is not sufficient to provide a basis for statistics. Details of changes in current rates of agricultural labourers, shop assistants, clerks, etc., however, so far as reported to the Department, are included in the Table below.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of change.
Building and Allied Trades.	London	1 Feb.*	Stone carvers	Increase of 4d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 2s. 2d.).†
	NORTHERN COUNTIES:—	1 Mar.	Masons, carpenters and joiners, wood-cutting machinists, plumbers, plasterers, and painters.	Increase of 3d. per hour (1s. 6d. to 1s. 9d.).
	Berwick-on-Tweed	5 Mar. 15 Mar.	Labourers	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.).
	Hexham		Plumbers	Increase of 2d. per hour (1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d.).
	YORKSHIRE:—	1 Mar.	Labourers	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 5½d. to 1s. 6½d.).
	Barnoldswick	28 Feb.*	Building trade operatives	Increase of 2½d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 9½d.; labourers, 1s. 6½d.
	Skipton			Increase to a rate of 1s. 11d. per hour.†
	Whitby	24 Mar.	Plumbers	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 11d.; tradesmen's labourers, 1s. 7½d.; other labourers and navvies, 1s. 7d.
	CHESHIRE:—	1 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plasterers, and labourers.	Increase of 2½d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 9½d.; labourers, 1s. 6½d.; other labourers and navvies, 1s. 5½d.
	Alderley Edge and Wilmslow	8 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: tradesmen, 1s. 11d.; tradesmen's labourers, 1s. 7½d.; other labourers and navvies, 1s. 7d.
MIDLAND AND EASTERN COUNTIES:—	29 Mar.	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and plumbers.	Increase of 2½d. per hour (1s. 4d. to 1s. 6½d.).†	
Aylsham and District	1 Mar.	Painters and labourers.	Increase of 1½d. per hour. Rates after change: painters, 1s. 5½d.; labourers, 1s. 3½d.	
Bedford		Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters, scaffolders, timbermen, and labourers.	Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: mechanics, 1s. 8d.; painters, 1s. 7d.; scaffolders and timbermen, 1s. 6d.; labourers, 1s. 5d.	
Bristol	8 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, plumbers employed by master builders, plasterers, and painters.	Increase of 1d. per hour (1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d.).	
		Stone sawyers, scaffolders, engine drivers, and labourers.	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: stone sawyers, 1s. 9d.; scaffolders and engine drivers, 1s. 8½d.; labourers, 1s. 8d.	

* The change took effect from the date shown under an arrangement made in March.

† See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of change. Includes entries for Midland and Eastern Counties, Devon, Gloucestershire, Hereford, Ipswich, Lichfield, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, North Hertfordshire, Norwich, Oxford, Stowmarket, Stroud, Tamworth, Wirksworth, Southern Counties, Barnstaple, Bath and Taunton, Bodmin, Bradford-on-Avon, Calne, and Dartmouth and Kingswear.

* Grade A.—Clacton-on-Sea, Dovercourt, Felixstowe, Frinton, Gorleston, Harwich, Lowestoft, Newmarket, Tendring Hundred, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Yarmouth.
† See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, Particulars of change. Includes entries for Southern Counties (Dover, Exeter, Isle of Wight, Launceston, Lewes, Marlborough, Newton Abbot, Plymouth and Devonport District, Swindon, Tavistock, Wadebridge and Padstow, Yeovil and Montacute), Wales and Monmouthshire (Barmouth, Brecon, Carmarthen, Colwyn Bay, Conwy, Llandudno, Prestatyn, Rhyl and Districts), Scotland (Ayrshire, Dundee and District, Elgin, Inverness), Kelso, Oban, Ireland (Clonmel, Downpatrick, Galway, Larne, Londonderry, Waterford), London and District, Mersey District, Watford, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and other towns in South Wales and Monmouthshire, Radstock District, Bristol District, Cumberland, and Furness District.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
† In addition to the rate as shown, these men receive an additional 1 1/4d. per hour for 13 weeks in view of the fact that they did not benefit under a Decision of the Industrial Court issued in December last.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of change.
Quarrying ..	West Cumberland ..	8 March	Limestone quarrymen ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 8½d. per shift to knobblers, of 8½d. per shift to other men and of 4d. per shift to boys. Rates after change: knobblers, 15s. 4d. per shift; haulage-enginemmen, 15s. per shift; first-class day-borers, 14s. 10d. per shift; blacksmiths and joiners, 14s. 3d. per shift; first-class day labourers, 14s. 2d. per shift; and first-class ruddmen, 13s. 8d. per shift.
	Llandulas and Llysfaen	1st pay after 22 March.	Limestone quarryworkers ..	Increase of 10 per cent. on time and piece rates. (See Decision No. 189 on p. 203).
	Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland.	29 Mar.	Iron puddlers .. Iron and steel millmen ..	Increase under sliding scale, of 10 per cent., making the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton, plus 187½ per cent. Increase, under sliding scale, of 10 per cent. on standard rates.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.	South Wales ..	18 Jan.*	All classes of workpeople employed in Siemens steel manufacture:— Earning up to 20s. per week. Earning from 20s. 1d. to 30s. per week Earning from 30s. 1d. to 60s. per week	Additional (special) bonus of 40 per cent. on base rates, making total bonuses (inclusive of war bonuses previously granted) as follows:— Bonus of 165 per cent. Bonus of 187 per cent. Bonus of 179 per cent. to those earning over 30s. per week, with a reduction of 1 per cent. to 150 32s. per week, for each additional 1s. earned up to 60s. per week. Bonus of 149 per cent. to those earning over 60s. per week, with a reduction of 4 per cent. to 115 per cent. for each additional 1s. earned up to 130s. per week. Bonus of 115 per cent.
			Earning over 130s. per week ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 17½ per cent., making the puddling rate 13s. 6d. per ton plus 175 per cent.
			Iron puddlers ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 17½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 175 per cent. above the standard.
			Iron millmen ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 12½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 125 per cent. above the standard.
Engineering ..	West of Scotland ..	15 March	Steel millmen, gas producermen, charge-wheeler, enginemmen, cranemen and firemen. Forge and tyre millmen.	Increase, under sliding scale, of 12½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 125 per cent. above the standard.
	Leiston ..	†	Smiths and strikers ..	Two shillings of the war wage of 28s. 6d. per week previously granted, incorporated in base rates. Base rates after change: smiths, 43s. 1 per week; strikers, 32s. 1 per week. (See Decision No. 179 on p. 203.)
	Lowestoft ..	†	Smiths and strikers ..	Increase of from 1s. to 3s. per week for smiths, making a base rate of 43s. 1 per week, and of 2s. per week to strikers, making a base rate of 30s. 1 (See Decision No. 179 on p. 203).
	Lynn ..	†	Smiths and strikers ..	Increase of 2s. per week to smiths at the previous base rate of 41s. 1 and of 4s. per week to strikers at the previous base rate of 26s. 1 (See Decision No. 179 on p. 203.)
Ship Repairing	Norwich ..	†	Smiths and strikers ..	Increase of from 2s. to 5s. 6d. per week, making base rates of 43s. 1 per week for smiths and of 32s. 1 per week for strikers. (See Decision No. 179 on p. 203).
	Avonmouth, Barry, Cardiff, Newport, Penarth, Port Talbot, Swansea, and Sharpness.	8 Jan.†	Fitters, turners, smiths, copper-smiths, electricians, etc., employed in the ship repairing trade. Fitters, turners, smiths, copper-smiths, electricians, etc., employed in the ship repairing trade.	Increase, as war wages, of 5s. per week. Rate after change: 49s. plus 28s. 6d. per week, plus 12½ per cent.
Copper, etc., Smelting	Swansea and District ..	31 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the copper and yellow metal smelting, etc., industry.	Increase of 14s. per week in base rate, and a war wage of 35s. per week with no bonus substituted for war wage of 29s. 6d. plus bonus of 12½ per cent. on total earnings previously granted, making a net increase of 9s. 8d. per week. Rate after change: 63s. plus war wage of 35s. per week.
	Great Britain** ..	2 Feb.†	Women 18 years of age and over employed in electric cable manufacture.	Bonuses of 30 per cent. and 25 per cent. (payable on base rates plus war wages) previously granted to timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively, increased to 35 per cent. and 30 per cent.
Miscellaneous Metal Trades.	Great Britain†† ..	1st full pay after 1 March.	Lithographic printers employed in tin box trade.	Minimum rates adopted of 43s. per week for Grade II occupations, and of 45s. per week for Grade III; Grade I to receive 41s. per week as previously arranged.
	Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Somerset ..	1st pay after 1 March.	Card setting machine tenters ..	Increase of 2s. 6d. per week. Minimum rates after changes: printing on flat bed tins, 82s. 6d. per week; rotary printing, 92s. 6d. per week; transferring (ordinary), 77s. 6d. per week, and transferring (plate) 82s. 6d. per week.
	Sheffield ..	1 March	Pen and pocket blade forgers:— Hand forged blades:— Shut up work .. Fast handle work ..	Increase of 3s. per week to timeworkers, and of 3½ per cent. to pieceworkers, making wages 18½ per cent. above the list. Time rate after change, 96s. per week. Bonus of 10 per cent., previously granted, increased to 33½ per cent. Bonus of 25 per cent., previously granted, increased to 50 per cent. Bonus of 10 per cent., previously granted, increased to 30 per cent.
	Walsall ..	29 Mar.	Datal men marking and hardening .. Butcher and table steel forgers, strippers, hardeners, and grinders. Steel chainmakers ..	Additional bonus of 20 per cent. Additional bonus of 25 per cent., making wages 100 per cent. above pre-war rates. Increase of 15 per cent. on pre-war list prices, making wages 115 per cent. above the list.
Miscellaneous Metal Trades.	Redditch ..	1st pay after 3 March.	Men 18 years of age and over employed in the needle and fishing tackle industry.	Increase of 7s. per week, making a general advance of 30s. 6d. per week over pre-war rates, in addition to bonuses of 12½ and 7½ per cent. on the earnings of timeworkers and pieceworkers respectively 21 years of age and over. (See Decision No. 175 on p. 203)
	Oxford and District ..	1 March.	Farriers:— Firemen .. Doormen ..	Increase of 11s. 6d. per week (59s. to 70s. 6d.) Increase of 11s. 7d. per week (56s. to 67s. 7d.)
	Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Walsall, Willenhall, Darlaston, and Wednesbury district.	1 Mar.	File cutters, hardeners, grinders, etc.:— Timeworkers, 18 years of age and over. Pieceworkers ..	Increase of 5s. per week. Increase of 7½ per cent. on list prices of June, 1919, making wages 7½ per cent. above the list.

* This increase took effect from the date shown under an arrangement made in March.
 † Under an Award made in March the increases were to be paid as from the first pay day after 1st December, in respect of the preceding pay period.
 ‡ The base rates specified are subject to the addition for timeworkers of the war wage of 26s. 6d. per week and bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.
 § The base rates quoted are subject to the addition of a war wage of 33s. 6d. per week plus a bonus of 12½ per cent. on earnings.
 ¶ The increase was put into operation in March, with retrospective payment from the first pay day after 1st December in respect of the preceding pay period.
 †† The increase took effect in March with retrospective payments from the date shown.
 ‡‡ The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Joint Industrial Council for the Electrical Cable Making Trade.
 §§ The increase took effect under an arrangement made between the British Tin Box Manufacturers' Federation and the Amalgamated Society of Lithographic Printers.
 ¶¶ See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of change.
Cotton Waste Industry.	Ashton-under-Lyne ..	2 March	Workpeople employed in the cotton waste industry.	Increase of 10s. per week to men and of 2s. 6d. per week to women. Minimum rates after change: men, 60s.; women:—machinists, 31s.; sorters, 30s.
	Brechin ..	5 March	All classes of workpeople employed in the linen industry (except female learners on piece work):— Males ..	Increase of 4s. 6d. per week to those 21 years of age and over, of 3s. 6d. per week to those 18 to 21 years, of 2s. 6d. per week to those 16 to 18 years, and of 1s. per week to those 14 to 16 years.
	Cupar ..	1 Mar.	Females .. Workpeople employed in linen manufacture.	Increase of 7½ per cent. Increases of 7s. per week to men 18 years of age and over, of 4s. per week to youths under 18, and of 10 per cent. to females.
Jute and Linen Industries.	Forfar and Kirriemuir ..	26 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the jute and linen industry:— All classes (except mechanics, blacksmiths and joiners).	Increase of 6s. per week to tenters; and to other classes, of 4s. per week to men 18 years and over, of 3s. per week to women 18 years and over, and of 2s. per week to youths and girls under 18 years; also all bonuses consolidated into wages.*
	Dundee, Carnoustie, Perth, and Tayport.	26 March	Pieceworkers .. Workpeople employed in the jute industry (except mechanics).	Increase, on reduction in hours, of 4 per cent.* Piece rates enhanced so as to give the same earnings for a 48-hour week as for the normal week previously worked (55 hours).*
	Dundee, Perth and Tayport.	26 March	Jute spinners ..	Scale of weekly rates adopted, varying according to size of bobbins and number of spindles attended, with scale of extra payments for heavy size yarns, reported as having resulted in increases of varying amounts (according to number of spindles).
	Silk Industry ..	Brighouse and District ..	6 Feb.†	Workpeople employed in the silk spinning industry (dressers, etc.): Males ..	Increase on present base rates of 5s. per week to those 18 years of age and over, and of 2s. 6d. per week to those under 18 years.† Rates after change: total wages (including "cost of living" wage), first framers—white or tussah, 77s. 9d.; second framers—white, 68s. 11d.; tussah, 73s. 4d.; joiners—white, 73s. 4d.; tussah, 75s. 6d.; waste washmen and warehousemen, 68s. 11d.; boiler and machinemmen, 70s. 11d.
Females ..				Increase on total wages of 3s. per week, new total wage being divided into base rate (100 parts) and "cost of living" wage (125 parts). Piecework rates to be adjusted to give an average wage of 15 per cent. above time rates. Rates after change: gassers, 46s. 4d.; spreaders and doublers, 38s. 9d.; others, 31s. 4d. to 36s. 4d.
Half-timers ..				Increase of 1s. 6d. per week. Uniform rate of 80s. per week adopted.*
Warpers (curtain, levers, plain net and warp lace branches).				Standardised list of piece prices adopted (estimated to have made wages in Scotland about 120 or 125 per cent. above pre-war rates).*
Lace Industry.	Nottingham and District	1 March	Twist hands employed in the curtain branch.	Standardised list of piece prices adopted (estimated to have made wages in Scotland about 120 or 125 per cent. above pre-war rates).*
			Auxiliary workers employed in curtain branch:— Brass bobbin winders and threaders (pieceworkers). Male timeworkers (general assistants). Female slip winders and menders	New list of piece prices adopted, and time rates of 1s. 2d. and 10½d. per hour adopted, for men and women respectively when employed on other work.* Scale of weekly rates adopted starting at 35s. at 18 years of age and increasing to 50s. at 22 years and 60s. at 24 years and over.* New lists of piece prices adopted, and rate of 10½d. per hour adopted for timeworkers; also scale of minimum rates adopted for learners, starting at 12s. per week and increasing to 6d. per hour at 16 years and 8d. per hour at 18 years and until competent.*
			Pattern readers, correctors, and press and piano punchers employed in curtain branch.	Rate of 87s. 6d. per week adopted for chagemen, of 1s. 8d. per hour for string readers, piano punchers, correctors and automatic punchers and of 1s. 5d., 1s. 6d. or 1s. 7d. per hour for press punchers (according to size of press).*
			Learners to above ..	Scale of rates adopted starting at 30s. per week for first six months of service, and increasing with each subsequent six months to 47s. 6d. per week for fourth six months of service and thereafter the full rates, but no one to be put to any section under 18 years of age.*
Asbestos Industry.	Great Britain§	1st full pay after 10 Mar.	Designers and draughtsmen employed in curtain branch:— Males ..	Scale of minimum rates adopted starting at 10s. per week at 15 years of age and increasing with each year of age to 22s. per week at 18 years, 45s. per week at 21 years of age, and to 75s. per week at 24 years; and an increase of 10 per cent. to workers over 24 years of age, any advance granted since date of last bonus to be deducted from this increase; also rate of 2s. per hour adopted for home workers.*
			Females (copyers) ..	Scale of minimum rates adopted starting at 10s. per week in first year of service and increasing with each subsequent year to 27s. 6d. per week in fifth year and to 40s. per week in eighth year.*
			Brass bobbin winders and threaders employed in plain net branch (males and females).	Standardised list of piece prices adopted.*
			Auxiliary workers employed in levers branch.	Bonuses of 100 and 75 per cent. over pre-war rates granted to workers over 18 years of age and under 18 years respectively, in lieu of previous war bonuses and additions.
Textile Printing, Dyeing, Finishing, etc.	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Scotland, and Belfast.	1st pay day in March.	Workpeople employed in textile and general asbestos manufacture:— Unskilled men (18 years and over). Women (18 years and over).	Increase, under sliding scale, of 4d. per hour in "cost of living" wage. Minimum rate after change, 9d. plus 6½d. "cost of living" wage. Minimum basic rate of 4½d. per hour adopted (to which is added a "cost of living" wage of 6½d. per hour).
			Engravers employed in engraving works:— Males ..	Bonus of 36s. per week, previously granted, increased to 58s. per week.
			Females (over 18 years) ..	Bonus of 21s. per week, previously granted increased to 22s. per week.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 † The increases were generally paid in March, with retrospective payment from the date shown.
 ‡ The increases in base rates are not to be reckoned in calculating the "cost of living" wage, which remains unchanged.
 § The change took effect under an agreement arrived at by the Joint Industrial Council for the Asbestos Manufacturing Industry.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, and Particulars of change. Rows include Textile Printing, Clothing Trades, Boot and Shoe Repairing, and Transport.

* See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
† The new minimum rates took effect under an Order of the Corset Trade Board.
‡ The new minimum rates took effect under an Order of the Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).
§ It was agreed that all war bonuses and awards should be merged into the new rates.
|| The changes described relate to workpeople employed by members of the Scottish Federation of Merchant Tailors and the Central Area Co-operative Wages Board.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Table with 5 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect, Occupations, and Particulars of change. Rows include Paper Manufacture, Paper Bag Manufacture, Paper Box Manufacture, and Printing and Allied Trades.

* The increases were granted as voluntary bonuses as the result of a recommendation by the Employers' Federation of Papermakers.
† The new minimum rates took effect under an order of the Paper Bag Trade Board; similar rates had previously been adopted from 1 December, 1919, by an agreement made between the United Kingdom Paper Bag Manufacturers' Association, the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants and the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers.
‡ The new minimum rates took effect under an order of the Paper Box Trade Board (Ireland).
§ Grade I towns—Ashton-under-Lyne, Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Carlisle, Chester, Derby, Harrogate, Kidderminster, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nottingham, Otley, Scarborough, Stockport, Stoke-on-Trent, Warrington and West Bromwich.
|| Grade II towns—Abergavenny, Accrington, Bolton, Cardiff, Coventry, Dunstable, Hull, Hyde, Ipswich, Leicester, Loughborough, Newport, Norwich, Plymouth, Reading, Redditch, Rochdale, St. Albans, Sheffield, Swansea, Wakenfield, Wigan and Wolverhampton.
¶ Grade III towns—Bishop Auckland, Blackburn, Blackpool, Burnley, Chesterfield, Exeter, Halifax, Huddersfield, Leek, Maidstone, Middlesbrough, Preston, Tonbridge, Whitehaven and Worcester.
‡ For list of towns see note on p. 342 of LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1919.
§ Members of the National Union of Printing and Paper Workers or the National Society of Operative Printers and Assistants.
¶ For list of towns see note on p. 143 of LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1920.
** The increase took effect from the date shown under an agreement which came into operation during March.
†† The increase took effect from the date shown under an agreement made in March.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of change.
Food and Drink Trades (continued).	Dublin, Belfast and Cork	1 Feb.*	Workpeople employed in flour mills	Increases of 7s. 8d. per week to men 21 years of age and over, and of 3s. 9d. to women and to boys under 21 years.
	Limerick	1 Feb.*	Workpeople employed in flour mills	Increases of 6s. per week to men 21 years of age and over, and of 3s. per week to women and to boys under 21 years.
	Other Districts in Ireland	1 Feb.*	Workpeople employed in flour mills	Increases of 4s. per week to men 21 years of age and over, and of 2s. per week to women and to boys under 21 years employed in mills with a roller contact of over 500 inches, and of 3s. and 1s. 6d. respectively to those employed in smaller mills.
Tobacco Trade	Ireland†	5 March	Workpeople employed in the tobacco trade:— Males	Scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, starting at 11s. 6d. per week for those under 15 years of age, and increasing with each year of age to 32s. 6d. per week at 18 years, and to 49s. 6d. per week at 21 years of age and over (learners to be excluded from these rates for the first 12 months). (See Order on p. 155 of Labour Gazette for March).
			Females	Scale of minimum rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts, starting at 11s. 6d. per week for those under 15 years of age, and increasing with each year of age to 25s. per week at 18 years, and to 31s. 6d. per week at 21 years of age and over (learners to be excluded from these rates for the first 12 months). (See Order on p. 155 of Labour Gazette for March).
Leather Trades.	Various Districts in England.	2 Feb.*	Males and females	Overtime rates fixed under the Trade Boards Acts for time worked in excess of 47 hours per week, or 8½ hours on any day except the weekly half-holiday, and 4½ hours on that day. (See Order on p. 155 of Labour Gazette for March).
			Pieceworkers	Basic hourly rates adopted for (a) skilled (b) semi-skilled and (c) unskilled men, respectively, of (a) 1s. 8d., (b) 1s. 6d. and (c) 1s. 4d. in the London district (within a radius of 17 miles from Charing Cross): (a) 1s. 7d., (b) 1s. 5d. and (c) 1s. 3d. for hat leather makers in the Lancashire district, and for other workers at Bolton and Bury; (a) 1s. 7d., (b) 1s. 5d. and (c) 1s. 3d. in Yorkshire (including Spen Valley district) and the North Eastern Counties (a) 1s. 8d., (b) 1s. 4d. and (c) 1s. 2d. in Northamptonshire and surrounding counties (including the towns of Leicester, Hitchin and Olney); and (a) 1s. 8d., (b) 1s. 4s. and (c) 1s. 2d. for hat leather makers outside the above districts.
Leather Trades.	London and District (within a radius of 17 miles from Charing Cross).	2 Feb.*	Youths employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Piece rates fixed so as to yield an average worker at least 25 per cent. in excess of the basic rate for timeworkers.
	Outer London Districts (outside radius of 17 miles from Charing Cross).	2 Feb.*	Youths employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Scale of hourly basic rates adopted, starting at 6d. at 16 years and increasing with each year of age to 9d. at 18 years, and therefrom with each half-year of age to 1s. 4d. or 1s. 6d. for semi-skilled and skilled workers, and 1s. 4d. for unskilled workers at 21 years.
	Northamptonshire and surrounding counties.	2 Feb.*	Youths employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Scale of hourly basic rates adopted, starting at 7d. at 16 years and increasing with each half-year of age to 10d. at 18 years and 1s. 1d. at 20½ years.
	Nottingham and District	2 Feb.*	Youths employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Scale of hourly basic rates adopted, starting at 7d. at 16 years and increasing with each year of age to 10d. at 18 years and 1s. 1d. at 20½ years.
	Other Districts	2 Feb.*	Youths employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Increases, pending the fixing of basic rates, of 3s. 6d. per week to youths over 18 years of age and of 1s. 9d. per week to those under 18 years.
	London and District	2 Feb.*	Women and girls employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Scale of basic hourly rates adopted, starting at 7d. at 16 years of age and increasing with each half-year to 10d. for semi-skilled workers and 9d. for unskilled workers at 19 years.
	Other Districts	2 Feb.*	Women and girls employed in the tanning, currying, etc., trades.	Increase of 2s. per week, pending the fixing of basic rates.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations.	Walsall, Birmingham and Districts.	1 March	Workpeople employed in the harness making industry.	New list of piece prices adopted for preparing and stitching, estimated to have resulted in a net increase in earnings of about 10 per cent.
	Great Britain‡	4 March	Workpeople employed in the incandescent mantle manufacturing industry:— Female timeworkers: Learners (with less than eight months' experience)	Scale of minimum rates adopted varying, according to age of starting, from 3d. per hour at 15 years to 6d. per hour at 18 years and over.‡
			Experienced workers	Scale of minimum rates adopted varying, according to age of starting, from 4d. per hour for those who commenced between 15 and 18 years of age to 8d. per hour for those 18 years and over.‡
	London	1st pay day after 1 Mar.	Female pieceworkers	Piece rates adjusted so as to enable a worker of average ability to earn 25 per cent. above the time rate applicable to her age.‡
Males (21 years and over)			Minimum rate of 1s. 0½d. per hour adopted.‡	
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations.	London	1st pay day after 1 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of umbrellas and walking sticks:— Male timeworkers 21 years of age and over with not less than four years' experience:— Mounters	Minimum rates adopted of 1s. 5d. per hour for polishers, 1s. 7d. per hour for fitters; and 1s. 9d. per hour for mounters, engravers and chasers.‡
			Stick makers	Minimum rates adopted of 1s. 5d. per hour for finishers (papering), 1s. 6d. per hour for punnicers; 1s. 7d. per hour for kilnmen, varnishers, stainers and general finishers; 1s. 8d. per hour for fliers, jointers and trappers; and 1s. 9d. per hour for cane benders and for turners.‡
			Male pieceworkers (21 years of age and over).	Piecework basis time rates fixed at not less than 1½d. per hour more than the general minimum time rates.‡
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations.	London	1st pay day after 1 Mar.	Juniors (other than apprentices)	Scale of minimum rates adopted varying from 4d. in the first half-year to 1s. 4d. in the fourteenth half-year.‡

* The increases took effect from the date shown, under an arrangement made in March.
 † The new minimum rates took effect under an order of the Tobacco Trade Board (Ireland).
 ‡ The change took effect under an agreement made between the Incandescent Mantle Manufacturers' Association and the Trade Unions represented on the Interim Industrial Reconstruction Committee for the Industry.
 § See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Particulars of change.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and Westmorland.	29 Mar.	Electricians employed by cinematograph exhibitors:— Continuous Halls (2 p.m. to 10 p.m.)	Uniform rates fixed at £5 per week for chief operators and £3 10s. per week for second operators.
			Chief operators in other Halls	Uniform rates adopted of £4 10s. per week for "twice nightly" halls with one matinee and for continuous halls (6 p.m. till 10 p.m.) with one matinee and of £3 10s. per week for "once nightly" halls with one matinee.
			Apprentices (over 16 years of age)	Scale of rates adopted, starting at 15s. per week for first year, and increasing by 10s. per week with each year of service to 55s. per week for fifth year, employees thereafter to be reckoned as second operators.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	London	1st pay after 5 March.	Clerks employed by coal merchants:— Males (over 25 years of age)	Advances (a) of 100 per cent. previously granted to those with a pre-war salary of up to 40s. a week increased to 125 per cent.; and (b) of 40s. per week previously granted to those receiving pre-war salaries over 40s. and up to and including 60s. per week, increased to 47s. 6d. per week; and an increase of 7s. 6d. per week in the minimum rate for those with a pre-war salary over 60s. per week, making a new minimum of 107s. 6d. per week.
			Males (under 25 years)	Increases in minimum rates of 6s. or 7s. 6d. per week to those from 16 to 21 years of age, and new scale adopted for those over 21 years starting at 40s. per week at 22 years, and increasing with each year of age to 62s. 6d. per week at 25 years, making an increase of 7s. 6d. per week in the minimum for those 25 years and over. Minimum rates after change: 16 years, 21s.; 18 years, 27s. 6d.; 21 years, 35s.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	London	1 Feb.*	Females	Increases in minimum rates varying from 5s. to 10s. per week. Minimum rates after change: 16 years, 21s.; 18 years, 27s. 6d.; 21 years, 35s.; 25 years, 47s. 6d.
			Clerks, etc., employed in newspaper offices:— Adult clerks	Minimum rates of 75s. and 65s. per week adopted for males and females respectively, and increases of 12½ per cent. to those below and of 10 per cent. to those at or above salaries of 150s. per week on 1st December, 1919.†
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	London	1 Feb.*	Junior clerks	Scale of minimum weekly rates adopted, starting at 25s. at 16 years and increasing with each year of age to 37s. 6d. at 18 years, and to 56s. for males and to 50s. for females at 20 years.†
			Shorthand typists	Minimum weekly rates adopted of 50s. at 18 years, 55s. at 19 years, 60s. at 20 years for both males and females, and of 75s. and 70s. for adult males and females respectively.†
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Ireland	1 Dec.† 1919.	Permanent bank officials:— Ordinary grades	Scale of minimum yearly salaries fixed for those 18 years of age and over, starting at £100 and increasing by £10 each year to £140 for males and £150 for females, and thence for males by £15 each year to £230 (with an efficiency bar after seven years' total service) and £20 to £450, and for females by £5 each year to £190, those entering at 16 years of age to be paid £80 in first year and £90 in second year, and those entering at 17 years £90 in first year. All the above salaries to be subject to a bonus of 20 per cent., the total being paid free of income tax.
			Higher grades	Minimum salaries fixed at £20 in excess of the above minimum scales for tellers or cashiers, and at £40 in excess for accountants, sub-managers, managers, etc., and administrative officials at head offices.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Manchester, Salford and District.	1 Mar.	Grocers' assistants:— Men assistants	Scale of wages adopted, starting at 14s. per week at 14 years of age, increasing with each year of age to 28s. at 18 years, 43s. at 21 years, and 65s. per week at 28 years.†
			Women assistants	Scale of wages adopted, starting at 14s. per week at 15 years of age, increasing with each year of age to 23s. 6d. at 18 years, 31s. at 21 years, 33s. 6d. at 22 and 23 years, 35s. at 24 and 25 years, and 42s. per week at 28 years.†
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Dublin	March	Managers (males)	Managers of shops with a turnover up to £60 per week to receive assistants' scale rate of wages plus 5s. per week; from £60 to £100 turnover, 70s. per week; from £100 to £125 turnover, 75s. per week; with over £125 per week turnover, 80s. per week.†
			Grocers and vintners' assistants who have served two years' apprenticeship:— In first two years In third and fourth years In fifth and succeeding years Foremen or charge hands	Increases to a minimum rate of 20s. per week.‡ Increases to a minimum rate of 26s. 8d. per week.‡ Increases to a minimum rate of 35s. per week.‡ Increases to a minimum rate of 45s. 6d. per week.‡
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Great Britain	(See p. 196)	Employees of tramway undertakings	(For particulars of these increases, see under Tramway Undertakings, p. 195).
			Durham	6 March	Corporation employees:— Labourers, cartmen, nightsoil and sewage workmen, etc.	Increase of 5s. per week, making a total advance over pre-war rates of 33s. per week.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Bridlington	1 March	Corporation employees:— Cemetery, Electricity, Gardens, Highways, Sanitary and Waterworks Departments.	Increase of 11s. per week, making a total advance over pre-war rates of 36s. per week for full time workers.
			Scarborough	1 March	Corporation employees:— Cemetery, Cleansing, Highways, Parks and Pleasure-Grounds and Waterworks Departments.	Increases of 11s. or 15s. per week, making a total advance over pre-war rates of 36s. or 40s. per week.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Todmorden	1st pay in March.	Corporation employees:— Street-sweepers, roadmen, labourers, etc. (able-bodied men 18 years of age and over).	Increase of 5s. 6d. per week, making a total advance over pre-war rates of 35s. per week. (See Decision No. 172 on p. 209.)
			Bristol	1 March	Corporation employees:— General outdoor staff (ashmen, sweepers, etc.)	Increase of 5s. per week to men 18 years of age and over, of 3s. per week to women 18 years of age and over, and of 2s. 6d. per week to boys under 18 years; making total advances over pre-war rates of 38s. per week for men; of 29s. per week for women; and of 19s. 6d. per week for boys.
Miscellaneous Trades and Occupations (cont'd).	Lowestoft	8 March	Sanitary department (building section).	Increase of 1d. per hour to craftsmen and of ½d. per hour to labourers.
			6 March	Corporation employees:— Bricklayers, carpenters, painters and labourers (building trade operatives).	Increase of 2½d. per hour. Rates after change: Bricklayers and carpenters, 1s. 7½d. per hour; painters, 1s. 6½d. per hour; labourers, 1s. 4½d. per hour.†

* The change took effect from the date shown, under an arrangement made in March.
 † See also under "Changes in Hours of Labour."
 ‡ The new scales took effect from the date shown, under an award issued in March.
 § The rates quoted are paid to workers living on the premises and are subject to an addition of 30s. per week to employees living outside place of employment.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920—continued.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupation.	Particulars of change.
Local Authority Services (continued).	Bedford	1st pay in March	Corporation employees:— Carters, dustmen, engine-drivers, general labourers, sweepers, etc.	Increase of from 4s. to 4s. 8d. per week to able-bodied men.
	Norwich	5 March	Corporation employees:— Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, painters, plumbers, wood-machinists and building trades' labourers.	Increase of 10s. per week, making total advances over pre-war rates of 48s. per week, or 1s. per hour, for wood-machinists; of 46s. per week, or 11d. per hour, for painters; and of 44s. per week, or 11d. per hour, for the other classes.
	Hastings	March	Corporation employees (excluding electricity department).	Increase of 7s. 6d. per week, making a total advance over pre-war rates of 32s. 6d. per week to able-bodied men; and an increase of 6s. per week to non-able-bodied men.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN HOURS TAKING EFFECT IN MARCH, 1920.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupation.	Particulars of change.	
Building and Allied Trades	London (Metropolitan Police Area).	Week after 11 March.	Men employed by public works contractors.	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted.	
	London	1 Feb.*	Stone carvers	Uniform week of 44 hours adopted.†	
	Whitby	24 March	Plumbers	Decrease of 2½ hours per week in summer (46½ to 44).†	
	Certain towns in Eastern Counties.‡	1st full pay in March.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Uniform week of 50 hours adopted in summer, resulting in decreases of from ½ to 6½ hours per week in summer.†	
	Aldeburgh, Halesworth, Leiston, Rentham, Saxmundham, Southwold, Wickham Market, and Woodbridge.	1st full pay in March.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Uniform week of 40½ hours adopted in summer.†	
	Aylsham and District	29 Mar.	Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of 2½ hours per week in summer (52½ to 50).†	
	Bodmin	23 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of 6 hours per week in summer (53½ to 47½).†	
	Calne	1 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, woodcutting machinists, slaters, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of 9½ hours per week in summer (56 to 46½).†	
	Barmouth	1 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of ¼ hour per week (47 to 46½).†	
	Brecon	22 Mar.	Bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of 1 hour per week (48 to 47).†	
	Kelso	15 Mar.	Slaters	Decrease of 6 hours per week in summer (50 to 44).†	
	Downpatrick	8 Mar.	Painters	Decrease of 6 hours per week in summer (56 to 50).†	
	Londonderry	1 Mar.	Painters	Decrease of 3 hours per week (50 to 47).†	
	Farrery	Oxford and District	1 Mar.	Farrers	Uniform week of 47 hours adopted.†
		Dundee, Carnoustie, Perth and Tayport, Forfar and Kirriemuir	26 Mar.	Workpeople employed in the jute industry (except mechanics).	Decrease of 7 hours per week (55 to 48).†
Linen and Jute Industry.	Workpeople employed in the jute and linen industry (except mechanics, black-smiths and joiners).			Decrease of 2 hours per week (50 to 48).†	
	Warpers			Uniform week of 48 hours adopted resulting usually in decreases varying from 7 to 9 hours per week.†	
Lace Industry	Long Eaton and Derby Districts and the West of England.	1st pay day in March.	Twist hands employed in the curtain branch.	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted resulting usually in decreases of 6 or 7 hours per week.†	
	Nottingham and District, and Ayrshire and Glasgow Districts (including Darvel and Newmilns).	1 March	Pattern readers, correctors, and press and piano punchers; also male and female auxiliary workers employed in curtain branch.	Decrease of 6 hours per week (54 to 48).†	
	Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and West of England Districts.	1st pay day after 9 March.	Lace curtain designers and draughtsmen. Brass bobbin winders and threaders employed in plain net branch.	Maximum week fixed at 48 hours.† Uniform week of 48 hours adopted resulting usually in decreases of 6 or 7 hours per week.†	
Textile, Dyeing, Bleaching, etc. Organ Building, Brewing, etc.	Dundee and District	9 March	Workpeople employed in the calendaring and dyeing industries.	Decrease of 7 hours per week (55 to 48).†	
	United Kingdom	1 March	Organ builders (skilled journeymen)	Decrease of 3 hours per week (50 to 47).†	
Miscellaneous Trades.	Cork	March	Brewery workers	Decrease of 2½ hours per week (50 to 47½).†	
	Great Britain	4 March	Workpeople employed in the incandescent mantle manufacturing industry.	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted resulting in decreases of from 2 to 7 hours per week.†	
Clerks and Shop Assistants	London	1st pay day after 1 March.	Workpeople employed in the manufacture of walking and umbrella sticks.	Uniform week of 48 hours adopted.†	
	Manchester, Salford and District.	31 March	Clerks, etc. employed in newspaper offices	Maximum week of 44 hours adopted.†	
Local Authority Services	Dublin	1 March	Grocers' assistants	Uniform week of 49 hours adopted.†	
	Lowestoft	6 March	Grocers' and vintners' assistants who have served two years' apprenticeship. Corporation employees:— Bricklayers, carpenters, painters, and labourers.	Decrease of 3 hours per week (59 to 56).† Decrease of 4½ hours per week (54½ to 50).†	

* The change took effect from the date shown under an arrangement made in March
 † See also under "Changes in Rates of Wages."
 ‡ Bury St. Edmunds, Clacton-on-Sea, Colchester, Dovercourt, Felixstowe, Frinton, Gorleston, Harwich, Lowestoft, Newmarket, Tendring Hundred, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Yarmouth.
 § The change took effect under an Award to which the Federation of Master, Organ Builders and the Organ Builders' and Musical Instrument Makers' Trade Society were parties.

Increases in Rates of Wages in April.

Increases in rates of wages have been arranged to take effect in April for workpeople employed in the engineering, shipbuilding and ship-repairing, light castings, heating and domestic engineering, tinplate, boot and shoe, and chemical trades, in agriculture, in the carting industry and in the railway service. Particulars of these and other increases will be given in the next issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

TRADE DISPUTES IN MARCH.
 Number, Magnitude and Duration.—The number of trade disputes reported to the Department as beginning in March was 184, as compared with 122 in the previous month, and 64 in March, 1919. In these new disputes nearly 96,000 workpeople were directly and over 4,000 workpeople indirectly involved (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, though not themselves parties to the disputes). In addition over 34,000 workpeople were involved, either directly or indirectly, in 58 disputes which began before March, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month. The total number of disputes in progress in March was thus 242, involving about 134,000 workpeople, as compared with about 110,000 workpeople involved in disputes in progress in February, 1920, and about 223,000 in March, 1919.

The following Table classifies these disputes by groups of trades, and indicates the number of workpeople involved (whether directly or indirectly) at the establishments concerned, and the approximate time lost during March in all the disputes in progress:—

Groups of Trades.	Number of Disputes.			Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in March.	Aggregate Loss of Working Days during March.
	Started before 1st March.	Started in March.	Total.		
Building	12	27	39	4,100	43,000
Mining and Quarrying.	4	33	37	69,200	242,000
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding.	11	34	45	28,600	275,000
Textile and Clothing	7	21	28	8,600	75,000
Transport	8	10	18	6,800	20,000
Other Trades	13	49	62	10,500	114,000
Employees of Public Authorities.	3	10	13	6,200	19,000
Total, March, 1920.	58	184	242	134,000	88,000
Total, February, 1920.	47	122	169	110,000	450,000
Total, March, 1919.	40	64	104	223,000	1,139,000

Of the 788,000 working days lost in March by all disputes in progress, about 367,000 were lost by disputes which began before March and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, and about 421,000 by disputes which began in the month.

Causes.—Of the 184 new disputes, 106, directly involving nearly 31,000 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 21, directly involving nearly 11,000 workpeople, on other wages questions; 4, directly involving about 3,000

workpeople, on questions respecting hours; 31, directly involving over 35,000 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 7, directly involving about 3,000 workpeople, on details of working arrangements; 10, directly involving about 2,000 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; 2, directly involving about 10,000 workpeople, in sympathy with other disputes; and 3, directly involving over 1,000 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 96 new disputes, directly involving nearly 36,000 workpeople, and 24 old disputes, directly involving over 5,000 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 35, directly involving over 13,000 workpeople, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 25, directly involving about 15,000 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 60, directly involving nearly 13,000 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 29 other disputes, directly involving nearly 50,000 workpeople, work was resumed pending negotiations.

DISPUTES IN FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1919 AND 1920.†

The following Table gives comparative figures for the first three months of 1919 and 1920 as regards number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and aggregate duration in working days:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to March, 1919.			Jan. to March, 1920.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved in all Disputes in progress.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	21	3,000	36,000	43	12,000	132,000
Mining and Quarrying.	54	460,000	2,082,000	81	134,000	456,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding.	58	217,000	4,039,000	52	83,000	1,489,000
Other Metal	32	23,000	128,000	21	27,000	360,000
Textile	11	5,000	46,000	44	13,000	106,000
Clothing	8	3,000	28,000	21	6,000	72,000
Transport	15	18,000	71,000	30	14,000	101,000
Woodworking and Furnishing.	12	3,000	37,000	26	3,000	34,000
Other Trades	40	12,000	90,000	90	17,000	287,000
Employees of Public Authorities.	19	3,000	19,000	22	7,000	30,000
TOTAL	270	747,000	6,576,000	426	316,000	3,067,000

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN MARCH, 1920.

Occupations and Locality.‡	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
	Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
BUILDING TRADES:—						
Builders' labourers—Dublin (near)	210	..	12 Jan.	45	For advance in wages of 3d. per hour.	Advance granted.
Electrical workers—Liverpool	400	..	16 Jan.	53	Refusal of employers to adopt working rules which had been agreed to locally but which had not been ratified by the National Joint Industrial Council.	Men accepted certain alterations in proposed rules, an advance in wages not provided for therein being granted.
Building trades workpeople—Dover.	264	..	4 March	7	For advance in wages of 2d. per hour.	Advance granted. (See also p. 193.)
COAL MINING:—						
Coal hewers, stonemen, surface workers, etc.—Newcastle-on-Tyne (near).	2,109	..	17 Jan.	42	For suspension of a colliery owners' weighman, following prosecution of men's checkweighman for alleged forgery.	Men's checkweighman acquitted, and owners' weighman and assistants removed.
Colliery clerks, weighers, time-keepers, store-keepers, miners, etc.—Rhondda.	11,535	..	12 March	4	Dispute respecting interpretation of colliery clerks' wages schedule.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Miners, etc.—Kirkcaldy (near)	1,898	..	12 March	15	For reinstatement of a crane-man who had been removed from a job at which he had refused to work overtime.	Craneman reinstated.
Miners, etc.—Rhondda	1,850	..	13 March	..	Dispute arising out of non-payment of an underground fitter for a certain day.	Satisfactory settlement effected.
Miners, etc.—Glasgow (near)	779	..	13 March	..	Dispute arising out of dismissal of a workman.	No settlement reported.
Miners, etc.—Sirhowy Valley	2,145	..	22 March	..	Dispute arising out of non-payment of minimum wage in an alleged abnormal working place.	No settlement reported.
Miners, etc.—Morpeth (near)	7,000	..	29 March	6	In sympathy with men involved in above dispute.	Work resumed; a further stoppage threatened.
Miners, etc.—Morpeth (near)	20,000	..	29 March	10	In sympathy with men dismissed from a Fire Brigade Rescue Station in connection with alleged grievances as to wages, hours, etc.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
METAL ETC., TRADES:—						
Shipyard ironworkers, platers' helpers and labourers—Leith.	950	300	5 March	13	For dismissal of a charge-hand.	Charge-hand accepted other work temporarily.
Clerical and manual workers (shipbuilding and engineering)—Clyde.	1,892	..	..	4	Dispute arising out of dissatisfaction of clerical grades as to salaries, etc.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Carpenters, engineers, etc.—Basingstoke.	1,500	..	16 March	2	Against employment of alleged unskilled men upon work claimed by skilled men.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
TEXTILE TRADES:—						
Damask weavers, etc.—Belfast (near).	394	..	17 Feb.	12	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Most of the over and Small-pox Lunatics in Asylums, Dismissed persons receiving out-tempo.
Reelers (flax spinning) and other workpeople—Leven.	60	600	25 March	1	For reinstatement of two dismissed fellow-workers.	..

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced).

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most reliable information available.

‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly" involved.

PRINCIPAL TRADE DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN MARCH, 1920—continued.

Occupations and Locality.*	Approximate Number of Workpeople Involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working days.	Cause or Object.*	Result.*
	Directly.	Indirectly.*				
CLOTHING TRADES:— Shirt and collar workers—Bridgwater.	217	..	27 Feb.	23	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Work resumed unconditionally.
Tailors, machinists, pressers, finishers, etc.—Dublin.	500	..	8 March	14	For advance in wages.	Certain advances granted, and a Conciliation Board to be established.
Tailors, tailoresses, etc. (bespoke trade)—Manchester.	800	..	8 March	3	For a 48-hour week and revision of rates of wages.	Work resumed pending national negotiations between representatives of merchant tailors, master tailors, and workpeople. No settlement reported.
Tailors, tailoresses, etc. (bespoke trade)—Manchester.	800	..	29 March	..	Failure of the negotiations which followed the above dispute.	No settlement reported.
TRANSPORT TRADES:— Dock labourers—Greenock	500	..†	1 March	3	Against employment of members of another Trade Union on certain shore work.	Work resumed pending negotiations.
Railway enginemn, etc.—Doncaster.	333	..	1 March	2	Against suspension of two enginemn who had left their engines without permission, in protest against abnormally long hours of duty.	Men reinstated on the understanding that they would not in future leave their engines until relieved. Arrangements to be made to shorten hours of duty.
Railway enginemn, guards, shunters, signalmn, etc.—Wakefield, Barnsley and district.	2,000	..	21 March	4	For expunction of record of one day's suspension imposed upon an engine driver who had refused to carry out an instruction involving abnormally long hours of duty.	Record to be expunged, upon driver giving an assurance that his action was not in defiance of discipline; joint committee set up to secure smooth and efficient working of "control" system.
WOODWORKING, ETC., TRADES:— Wheelwrights, smiths, painters, labourers, etc.—Liverpool.	600	..	2 March	1	For advance in wages.	Advance granted. (See also p. 198.)
Furnishing trades workpeople—Norwich.	240	5	15 March	..	For advance in wages, reduction in working hours, and other concessions.	No settlement reported.
OTHER TRADES:— Trawler skippers, mates, enginemn and firemen, deck hands, etc.—Fleetwood.	600	800	1 Feb.	43	For increased remuneration and other concessions.	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Brewery labourers, malsters, masons, carpenters, etc.—Cork.	311	36	11 Feb.	29	For advance in wages and reduction in hours.	Modified advance in wages and reduction in hours granted. (See also pp. 149 and 202.)
Artists' colour workers—London..	298	..	13 March	25	For advance in wages and recognition of Trade Union.	Certain advances granted.
Farm labourers—Dublin district..	2,000	..	15 March	15	For advance in wages and other concessions.	Agreement effected fixing rates of wages for a 54-hour week. (See also p. 198.)
EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC AUTHORITIES:— Engineering and electrical workers—London.	1,500	..	17 March	1	For dismissal of a foreman.	Foreman dismissed.
Enginemn, woodworkers, etc. (motor transport depot)—Slough.	4,000	..	25 March	3	For reinstatement of a dismissed workman.	Work resumed pending negotiations.

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
† A number of workpeople employed at sugar refineries were rendered idle in consequence of this dispute.

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

PRICES AND WAGES IN THE COAL AND IRON TRADES.

The results of recent ascertainties of the selling prices of coal and iron are given below:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit*		Inc. (+) or Dec. (—) of last Audit* on	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous audit.	A Year earlier.
Coal. (Average of all classes of Coal at pit's mouth.)		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland	Dec. 1919—Feb. 1920.	41 10½	+ 0 5½	+ 16 9
Pig Iron. (No. 3 Pig Iron.)				
Cleveland	Jan.—Mar. 1920.	178 3¼	+ 17 0½	+ 59 10½
Cumberland	Jan.—Feb.	216 1	+ 11 0	†
Manufactured Iron. (Bars and angles.)				
North of England	Jan.—Feb.	471 3¼	+ 22 3¼	+138 4½
Midlands	Jan.—Feb.	513 7	+ 30 8½	+161 7½
West of Scotland	Jan.—Feb.	481 2	+ 34 1	+143 4

Coal.—No change in miners' wages resulted from the ascertainment in Northumberland.
Pig Iron.—The increase in the ascertained price of Cleveland pig iron resulted in an increase, as from 4th April, of 17½ per cent. on the standard rates of wages of 1919. The wages of iron miners in Cumberland and Furness and of limestone quarrymen in Cumberland were increased as a result of the ascertainment (see pp. 193 and 194).
Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England the ascertained prices resulted in an increase of 10 per cent. on standard rates of puddlers and millmen, whilst in Scotland the increase amounted to 17½ per cent. on the ascertained price for the Midlands resulted in an increase of 15 per cent. on the standard rates of wages.

* This series was for the period Sept.-Oct., 1919.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' SALES.

The Table below gives the details as to sales in the fourth quarter of 1919, 1918, and 1914, respectively, of the three Co-operative Wholesale Societies in England, Scotland, and Ireland. Compared with the corresponding period of 1918, there was a considerable increase in every case. The sales both of the distributive and productive departments show large increases as compared with the fourth quarter of 1914, but the figures are, of course, affected by the general increase in prices:—

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales* in the fourth quarter of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (—) compared with	
	1919.	1918.	1914.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ..	25,930,772	19,059,050†	10,657,889	+36·1	+143·3
Productive	7,334,095	5,427,528†	2,597,936	+35·1	+182·3
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ..	7,188,732	5,415,166	2,659,121	+32·7	+170·3
Productive	2,362,459	1,639,390	905,043	+44·1	+161·0
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:—					
Productive Departments ..	274,064	113,961	65,950	+140·5	+315·6
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ..	323,467	207,036	52,567	+56·2	+515·3
Total—Distributive Departments ..	33,440,971	24,681,252	13,369,577	+35·5	+150·1
Total—Productive Departments ..	9,970,618	7,180,879	3,568,929	+38·8	+179·4
GRAND TOTAL ..	43,411,589	31,862,131	16,938,506	+36·2	+156·3

* The figures given for productive departments represent sales and transfers to the distributive departments.
† Revised for comparison.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES AND FATAL ACCIDENTS.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The total number of cases* of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during March, 1920, was 57, of which 28 were due to lead poisoning, 1 to arsenic poisoning, 4 to epitheliomatous ulceration, 16 to chrome ulceration, and 8 to anthrax.
There was 1 death resulting from the smelting of metals, 1 in the pottery industry, and 1 in the wool industry.
Two cases of lead poisoning amongst house painters and plumbers came to the knowledge of the Home Office during March, but notification of these cases is not obligatory.
An analysis of the number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax in March is given in the Table below:—

(a) CASES OF LEAD POISONING.	(b) CASES OF OTHER FORMS OF POISONING.
Among Operatives engaged in—	Mercurial Poisoning—
Smelting of Metals	Barometer and Thermometer Making
Plumbing and Soldering	Other Industries
Printing	Phosphorus Poisoning
File Cutting and Hardening	Arsenic Poisoning
Tinning of Metals	Toxic Jaundice—
Other Contact with Molten Lead	Arseniretreated Hydrogen Gas
White and Red Lead Works	Epitheliomatous Ulceration—
Pottery†	Tar
Vitreous Enamelling	Pitch
Electric Accumulator Works	Chrome Ulceration
Paint and Colour Works	TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING"
Indiarubber Works	21
Coach and Car Painting	(c) CASES OF ANTHRAX—
Shipbuilding	Wool
Paint used in other Industries	Handling of Horsehair
Other Industries	Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)
TOTAL OF ABOVE	Other Industries
28	3
HOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	TOTAL, ANTHRAX
2	8

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS. (BASED ON HOME OFFICE AND MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT RETURNS.)

The number of workpeople, other than seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment during March, 1920, was 302, an increase of 42 on the previous month and of 30 on a year ago.
The mean number in the five years 1915-1919 was 278, the maximum being 314 and the minimum 234.
The distribution of such fatal accidents among the various trades is as follows:—

RAILWAY SERVICE.	Factories and Workshops—
Brakemen and Goods Guards	(continued):
Engine Drivers	Non-Textile—(continued):
Firemen	Gas
Guards (Passenger)	Wood
Permanent Waymen	Clay, Stone, &c.
Porters	Chemicals
Shunters	Laundries
Mechanics	Food
Labourers	Drink
Miscellaneous	Paper, Printing, &c.
Contractors' Servants	Other Non-Textile Industries
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	30
106	TOTAL, FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS
Surface	116
12	ACCIDENTS REPORTED UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5—
TOTAL, MINES	Docks, Wharves and Quays
118	Warehouses
2	Buildings to which Act applies
Factories and Workshops.	9
Textile—	TOTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT, SS. 104-5
Cotton	23
Wool and Worsted	Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894
Other Textiles	2
Non-Textile—	Total (excluding Seamen)
Extraction of Metals	302
Founding and Conversion of Metals	
Engineering and Locomotive Engineering	
Ship and Boat Building	

* Cases include all attacks reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.
† The persons affected in the Pottery industry were males.

PAUPERISM IN GREAT BRITAIN.

(DATA SUPPLIED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH IN ENGLAND, AND THE BOARD OF HEALTH IN SCOTLAND.)

The number of paupers relieved on one day in March, 1920, in the 31 selected areas named below, corresponded to a rate of 132 per 10,000 of population, showing an increase of 1 per 10,000 on the previous month and of 10 per 10,000 on a year ago, but a decrease of 63 per 10,000 compared with March, 1913. Compared with February the total number of paupers relieved increased by 2,130 (or 0·9 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers increased by 435 (or 0·4 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers increased by 1,695 (or 1·4 per cent.). Ten districts showed no change, nineteen showed increases, and two showed decreases. No change, either increase or decrease, exceeded 4 per 10,000.

Compared with March, 1919, the total number of paupers increased by 19,038 (or 8·8 per cent.). The number of indoor paupers increased by 6,302 (or 6·2 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers increased by 12,736 (or 11·2 per cent.). One district showed no change, three showed decreases, and every other district showed an increase. The greatest increases were in the East Metropolitan and the Barnsley districts (26 per 10,000). Other districts showing increases ranging from 14 to 19 per 10,000, were the South Metropolitan, Newcastle, Stockton and Tees, Liverpool, Sheffield, Glasgow, and Coatbridge and Airdrie districts. Statistics for Ireland are not yet available.

Selected Urban Areas.*	Paupers on one day in March, 1920.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with a	
	Indoor.	Outdoor.	TOTAL.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES:†						
Metropolis.						
West District	8,469	1,580	10,049	124	..	+ 8
North District	10,226	4,930	15,156	152	..	+10
Central District	2,897	867	3,764	239	+ 2	+ 5
East District	9,507	4,739	14,246	213	+ 2	+26
South District	17,626	11,236	28,862	150	+ 3	+19
TOTAL, Metropolis	48,725	23,552	72,277	180	+ 2	+16
West Ham	3,906	8,131	12,037	148	+ 2	+ 5
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ..	1,888	4,490	6,378	125	+ 2	+18
Stockton and Tees District	884	2,368	3,252	123	+ 4	+16
Bolton, Oldham, etc. ..	3,243	2,549	5,792	69	..	+ 3
Wigan District	1,496	4,388	5,884	129	..	+ 4
Manchester District ..	7,133	4,413	11,546	108	..	+ 8
Liverpool District ..	8,683	9,123	17,806	150	..	+15
Bradford District ..	1,679	1,269	2,948	78	..	+ 1
Halifax and Huddersfield	1,012	1,759	2,771	71	..	+ 8
Leeds District	2,039	2,348	4,387	60	+ 2	+ 8
Barnsley District ..	773	3,977	4,750	142	+ 1	+29
Sheffield District ..	2,240	2,672	5,112	100	+ 2	+18
Hull District	1,509	4,585	6,094	183	+ 2	+ 7
North Staffordshire ..	1,579	3,700	5,279	126	+ 1	+ 2
Nottingham District ..	1,741	3,572	5,313	109	..	+ 4
Leicester District ..	1,007	1,568	2,575	107	+ 1	+ 5
Wolverhampton District ..	2,748	4,608	7,356	103	+ 1	+ 5
Birmingham District ..	5,628	3,196	8,824	102	+ 1	+ 9
Bristol District	2,399	2,450	4,849	121	..	+ 2
Cardiff and Swansea ..	1,938	5,137	7,075	149	+ 1	+ 9
TOTAL "Other Districts" ..	49,619	68,361	118,000	114	+ 1	+ 8
SCOTLAND:†						
Glasgow District	3,042	15,712	18,754	194	+ 4	+14
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	631	1,812	2,443	123	+ 1	+ 6
Edinburgh & Leith Dist.	1,209	3,359	5,068	125	+ 2	+ 7
Dundee and Dundfermline	561	1,705	2,286	113	+ 2	+ 1
Aberdeen	373	1,910	2,283	133	+ 4	+ 2
Coatbridge and Airdrie ..	294	1,501	1,795	168	+ 2	+14
TOTAL for the above } Scottish Districts }	6,130	26,499	32,629	159	+ 2	+10
TOTAL for above 31 Districts in March, 1920 }	108,380	126,363	234,743	132	+ 1	+10

* These urban areas include in the case of England and Wales more than one poor-law union, except in the Leicester, Birmingham and West Ham districts; and more than one parish in the case of Scotland, except in the Aberdeen district.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses; and of persons receiving outdoor medical relief only.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, ETC.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT: ADDED PERIL: LIGHTING PIPE IN FIERY MINE.

A workman injured by accident is not entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, unless the accident was one arising out of and in the course of the employment. Where injury to a workman is attributable to his own serious and wilful misconduct compensation is disallowed unless the injury results in death or serious and permanent disablement.

A miner in the employment of a colliery company on 27th September, 1918, while at work in the pit struck a match to light his pipe. The consequence was an explosion by which he was so seriously injured that he died. It was an offence under the Coal Mines Act, 1911, to light a match in that pit or to have a match in possession. Notices of the Act were posted at the colliery, and the Regulations were known to the miner.

The dependants took proceedings for compensation. The Sheriff found as a fact that the explosion was an accident arising out of and in the course of the employment of the deceased, and as his misconduct was no defence in the circumstances he made an award of compensation. The company appealed to the Court of Session, who allowed the appeal on the ground that there was no evidence upon which the Sheriff was entitled to find that the accident arose out of and in the course of the employment of the deceased.

The dependants appealed to the House of Lords. The appeal was dismissed.

The House of Lords held that the conduct of the deceased added a peril which was not incidental to his employment. The proximate cause of the accident was the act of the man in striking a match which the terms of his employment forbade him to have in his possession or to strike. The injuries were not caused by anything arising out of his employment but by something extraneous to his employment. The case was a typical example of an added risk which took the case out of the Act. No compensation was therefore payable.—*Campbell or Robertson v. Woodilee Coal & Coke Co., Ltd.*—House of Lords.—22nd March, 1920.

AWARD OF COMPENSATION TO ALLEGED SOLE DEPENDANT: SUBSEQUENT CLAIM BY OTHER DEPENDANT: COMMITTEE OF ARBITRATION DERIVING AUTHORITY FROM ORDER OF SECRETARY OF STATE: POWER TO VARY AWARD.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, that where it appears to a County Court that, on account of the variation of the circumstances of the several dependants, an award as to the apportionment of compensation amongst the dependants ought to be varied, the Court may make such order for variation as in the circumstances the Court may think just. The Secretary of State may confer on any committee, representative of the employer and his workmen, which acts as arbitrator under the Act, all or any of the powers conferred by the Act upon County Courts. The Act includes an illegitimate grandchild amongst the persons who may be "dependent."

A committee representative of a manufacturing company and the workmen employed by the company was appointed to act as the arbitrators in matters arising under the Act. This committee had conferred upon it by the Secretary of State certain powers of a County Court, including the power to vary the apportionment of compensation amongst dependants. A workman was killed in circumstances entitling his dependants to compensation, and the committee made an award in favour of his widow as the sole dependant of the deceased. Subsequently it was alleged that an illegitimate grandson of the deceased had been wrongfully excluded and was entitled to share in the compensation. An application was accordingly made to the County Court Judge to set aside the award made by the committee. The Judge, however, decided that he had no jurisdiction to interfere. The Court of Appeal held that the Judge was right in deciding that he had no jurisdiction to set aside or vary the award, but that the committee themselves had power to reopen the matter by enquiring who were the actual dependants of the deceased and, if necessary, to vary their award. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Blakey v. Samuelson & Co., Ltd.*—Court of Appeal.—20th February, 1920.

(2) Trade Union Acts.

PENALTY ON MEMBERS OF UNION NOT ENFORCEABLE AT LAW: APPEAL TO COURT AGAINST FINE: JURISDICTION OF COURT.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act, 1871, that nothing in the Act is to enable any court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of (inter alia) any agreement for the payment by any person of any subscription or penalty to a trade union.

The 1st May, 1919, was not a public or general holiday, but the majority of the workmen at certain works resolved

to take a holiday on that day. Some of the workmen, however, objected to taking this holiday and did in fact work on 1st May.

A complaint was then made at a meeting of the district committee of the trade union to which all the workmen belonged that certain members had worked on the day in question in defiance of the resolution of the majority. None of the men against whom complaint was made were present at the meeting. It was moved that they should be summoned to attend the next meeting. A counter motion, however, demanded that they should be fined at once. Upon this four out of the six members of the committee present withdrew and another member had to be found to make a quorum. This quorum passed the resolution to fine each of the workmen against whom the complaint was lodged the sum of 15s. The men fined appealed to a general district meeting, but after they had been heard the fines were confirmed. An appeal to the executive council of the union had the same result.

An action was then brought in the Court of Session by thirty of the men who had been fined against the union and certain of its officers for a declaration that the resolution of the district committee fining the pursuers was irregular and invalid.

The Judge decided that he had no jurisdiction to entertain the proceedings. He said that the Court in the first instance had not to consider the regularity or justice of the proceedings, but whether it had any power to interfere. The fines complained of could not be enforced by any legal proceeding. The committee might just as well have sentenced the pursuers to be decapitated, so far as the law was concerned. Therefore, in law the pursuers had suffered no injury and had no remedy. The action was therefore dismissed.—*Drennan & others v. Associated Iron-moulders of Scotland.*—Court of Session.—18th March, 1920. Reported in the "Glasgow Herald," 19th March, 1920.

(3) Wages.

ON WHAT DAY SHOULD WAGES BE PAID? WEEK ENDING THURSDAY: DEMAND FOR PAYMENT ON FRIDAY: IS SATURDAY A WORKING DAY?

In certain works, from the point of view of wages, the week was considered to end on Thursday. All wages due were calculated for the week ending on Thursday, and were paid on the following Saturday. The workmen employed raised objections to this arrangement. They asserted that they were not obliged to work at all on Saturdays and that they should be paid on Fridays and not compelled to attend at the works on Saturdays. They took up the position that the working week consisted of 50 hours and excluded Saturday, and that the existing system compelled them to attend at the works on a day when they did no work and earned no wages. Wages, they said, should be paid in working hours, and Friday between 2.0 p.m. and 6.0 p.m. was the proper time for payment and would allow sufficient time for the necessary accounts to be taken. On the other hand, the company contended that the recognised working week was 54 hours and included Saturday as a working day, and that in fact many workmen did work on the Saturday. They also asserted that it was not possible to have the wages accounts for the week completed by the Friday afternoon, and that therefore wages could not be paid before Saturday.

In these circumstances on Friday, 12th December, 1919, a number of workmen employed at the works demanded to be paid the wages due to them for the week ending Thursday evening, 11th December. This demand was refused by the employers.

An action was then brought in the Court of Session by 54 of the workmen against the company claiming a declaration that the employers were bound to pay the pursuers their weeks' wages for the week ending Thursday, 11th December, on Friday, 12th December, and that they were not entitled to demand that the pursuers should attend the works on the Saturday in order to receive their wages. They also claimed in the action the wages due for the week in question. The employers pleaded that the action could not be maintained, and that the Court had no jurisdiction to make any such declaration as was sought.

The Judge adopted the contention of the employers and dismissed the action. He said that each of the pursuers was separately engaged on a distinct contract between him and the company. They were not suing as members of a trade union complaining of a breach of agreement between the union and the employers, but each must be taken to be complaining of a breach of the contract with him as an individual. This complaint they were unable to support, and there was no ground of action. Stripped of all camouflage, the pursuers were attempting to make Saturday a *dies non* at the works and to compel the company to stop running their machinery and to close their works on that day, so preventing 2,500 workmen from earning anything on that day. Judgment was, therefore, given for the defendants.—*Sime & others v. J. and A. D. Grimond, Ltd.*—Court of Session.—18th February, 1920. Reported in the "Glasgow Herald," 19th February, 1920.

(4) Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act, 1919.

(1) QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE CONTINUANCE BY A FIRM OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN ON WORK PREVIOUSLY DONE BY MEN IS A BREACH OF THE ACT.

In this case the appellants (the employers) were a firm of machine tool makers at Halifax, and the respondent (the complainant in the original proceedings) was a delegate and acting on behalf of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the complaint being that the appellants were employing women to do work done before the war by men, thereby infringing the Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act, 1919.

The Local Munitions Tribunal held that the only evidence that need, or in fact could, be considered was evidence as to the practice prevailing in the appellants' own establishment and finding on the facts that during, and in consequence of, the war the appellants employed women, and were still doing so, upon work where before the war they employed men, they found the complaint established.

On appeal it was held that the decision must be quashed, and the matter remitted to the Tribunal for hearing and determination.

The following points were decided by Mr. Justice Roche:—

(1) In Section 1 (1) of the Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act, 1919, the words "rule, practice or custom obtaining before the war in any industry or branch of an industry" mean a rule, practice or custom of general application in the industry or branch of industry.

(2) Notices of departure from previously prevailing conditions given under Clause 6 of Schedule II of the Munitions of War Act, 1915, are not evidence of any real weight as to such departure, unless by virtue of the particular contents of particular notices.

(3) Where, in accordance with Section 2 (3) of the Act, proceedings are instituted by or on behalf of a trade union, it is not necessary for the complainant to produce a written authorisation from his union to prefer the complaint, if the tribunal are satisfied with the evidence of authority.

(4) A trade union may have a *locus standi* in proceedings under the Act although at the time proceedings are taken none of its members are employed by the persons against whom the complaint is laid.

Taylor v. Smith, Barker and Willson.—King's Bench Division.—27th February, 1920.

(2) QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE CONTINUANCE BY A FIRM OF THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN ON WORK PREVIOUSLY DONE BY APPRENTICES IS A BREACH OF THE ACT.

During the war the defendant firm employed women on light core work which had previously been done by apprentices. The Scottish Brass Moulders' Union lodged a complaint against the firm for infringing the Restoration of Pre-War Practices Act, 1919, in continuing to employ women on such work. The tribunal interpreted the phrase "trade practice," as used in Section 1 (1) of the Act, as meaning a rule, practice or custom obtaining in the particular establishment, and decided against the firm.

On appeal, it was held that the trade practice referred to in the section is a rule, practice or custom obtaining in the industry or branch of industry.—*Prentice v. McPhail and Sons.*—Scottish Court of Appeal.—2nd March, 1920.

(5) Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, 1918.

WAGES: FAILURE TO PAY PRESCRIBED RATE: AWARD BINDING ON DEFENDANT'S PREDECESSOR: WHETHER BINDING ON DEFENDANTS.

The defendant firm carried on business in a shipyard at Poole, which had previously been a controlled establishment owned by another firm, H. R. & Co. By an award of the Committee on Production of the 11th July, 1918, when H. R. & Co. were the owners of the establishment, all workpeople employed by this firm were to be paid at the rate of wages obtaining in the Southampton shipyard, and, in addition, railway fares, a travelling allowance of an hour per day, and a good time-keeping bonus. The workman claimed that, for the period during which he was employed by Gardiners, that firm had failed to comply with the Wages (Temporary Regulation) Act, because they had not paid him the allowances mentioned, which he claimed formed part of the prescribed rate. The Tribunal decided against the complainant.

On appeal, it was held that the award of the Committee on Production, binding the previous owners to pay the allowances claimed, was not binding on the defendant firm, and that there was no evidence that the allowance formed part of the prescribed rate.—*Troke v. Gardiner Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Ltd.*—King's Bench Division.—30th January, 1920.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

INDUSTRIAL COURT (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1920. DATED 15TH DAY OF MARCH, 1920. MADE BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR BY VIRTUE OF POWERS VESTED IN HIM BY THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND OF ALL OTHER POWERS ENABLING HIM IN THAT BEHALF.

1. In these Rules:—

The expression "Act" means the Industrial Courts Act, 1919; and

The expression "Minister" means the Minister of Labour; and

The expression "Court" means the Industrial Court established by the Act and includes, unless the contrary intention appears, any division thereof and any single member of the Court to whom a matter may be referred for determination; and

The expression "President" means the President of the Industrial Court; and

The expression "Division" means any group of members of the Court constituted as the President may direct to hear and determine any matter referred to the Court.

2. The Court may sit in two or more divisions.

3. Any matter referred to the Court for settlement may at the discretion of the President be heard and determined by a single member of the Court.

4. The Court may, at the discretion of the President, in any matter in which it appears expedient to do so call in the aid of one or more assessors and may settle the matter wholly or partially with the assistance of such assessor or assessors.

5. The Court may with the consent of the parties act notwithstanding any vacancy in their number and no act, proceeding, or determination of the Court shall be called in question or invalidated by reason of any such vacancy, provided such consent has first been obtained.

6. The Court may correct in any award any clerical mistake or error arising from an accidental slip or omission.

7. If any question arises as to the interpretation of any award of the Court, the Minister or any party to the award may apply for a decision on such question and the Court shall decide the matter after hearing the parties, or without such hearing, provided the consent of the parties has first been obtained. The decision of the Court shall be notified to the parties and shall be final in the same manner as the decision in an original award.

8. Persons may appear by counsel or solicitor on proceedings before the Court with the permission of the Court.

9. Subject to these rules the Court may regulate their own procedure as they think fit.

10. These Rules may be cited as the Industrial Court (Procedure) Rules, 1920.

Given under the official seal of the Minister of Labour this Fifteenth day of March, One Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty.

SEAL. (Signed) D. J. SHACKLETON, Secretary.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

THE INDUSTRIAL COURT CONSTITUTED UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919.

Building and Allied Trades.

BUILDING TRADE.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Scottish National Building Trades' Federation, on behalf of the master wrights at Glasgow, Dunoon, Kilmarnock, Paisley, Clydesdale district, Mauchline and Cumnock, Dumbarton, Largs, Stirling and district, Falkirk, Aberdeen, North-East of Scotland, Galashiels, Hawick, Dunfermline, Dundee, Ayr, Greenock, Coatbridge; master masons at Aberdeen, North-East of Scotland; master plumbers at Glasgow and West of Scotland, and Edinburgh; master glaziers at Glasgow and Edinburgh; Building Trades Employers' Associations of Edinburgh and Leith, Bathgate, Kirkcaldy, Kilmarnock, Leven, East of Fife, Burntisland, Ayr; the Scottish Master Slaters' Association and the Scottish Master Plasterers' Association. Decision—Claim for an advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (201)

MASONS AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Perth and District Master Masons' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (202)

LATHSPPLITTERS, LATHIERS, AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board (on behalf of lathsplitters, lathers, and labourers) v. the Master Lathsplitters' Association. Decision—Claim for an advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (203)

RE-INFORCED CONCRETE WORKERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Scottish Re-inforced Concrete Contractors' Association in respect of members at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Leith, Port Glasgow, Hawick and Ayr. Decision—Claim for

Industrial Court.—Continued.

advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (204)

MASONS, BRICKLAYERS AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Ayr Master Builders' Association, Ayr and District Master Masons' Association, Master Masons' and Bricklayers' Association of Ayrshire. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (205)

JOINERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Bute Master Joiners' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (206)

PAINTERS AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the National Federation of Master Painters in Scotland. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (207)

MASONS AND BRICKLAYERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Dumfries and Maxwelltown Master Masons' Association. Decision—Claim for an advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (208)

PAINTERS AND PAINTERS' LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Dumfries Master Painters' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (209)

MASONS, BRICKLAYERS AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Kilmarnock and District Master Masons' Association. Decision—Claim for an advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (210)

MASONS, BRICKBUILDERS AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Scottish Building Contractors' Association on behalf of their members at Glasgow, Greenock, Strathaven, High Blantyre, Hamilton, Coatbridge, Larkhall, Motherwell, Lanark, Airdrie, Barrhead, Renfrew, Helensburgh, Baillieston, Ayr, Bothwell, Larbert, Johnstone, Holytown, East Kilbride, Duntocher, Blantyre, Dumbarton. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (211)

TILEFIXERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board (on behalf of tilelayers, marble masons, marble machinemen and marble polishers) v. Glasgow Master Tilefixers' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (212)

MASONS, BRICKLAYERS AND LABOURERS.—Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Dundee and District Master Builders' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (213)

CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Hawick and District Master Carpenters and Joiners' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (214)

JOINERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Kirkcaldy and District Master Joiners' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (215)

PAINTERS AND PAINTERS' LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Ayr Master Painters' Association. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (216)

ASPHALTE WORKERS.—The Workers' Union, the Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Asphalt Trade Association of Scotland. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (217)

Mining and Quarrying.

LIMESTONE QUARRYING.—National Union of General Workers v. the Llysfaen and Llandulas Limestone Quarry Proprietors. Decision—The men concerned, aged 18 years and over, both day workers and piece-workers, to receive an advance of 10 per cent., to be added to their existing percentage rate; claim for certain hourly rates for the various grades of workpeople, and for 50 per cent. extra to be paid for all overtime to the loading gang when loading vessels, not established. Issued 22nd March. (189)

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

ENGINEERS, CRANE DRIVERS, &c.—The Lilleshall Co., Ltd., Shifnal v. the National Amalgamated Union of Enginemen, Firemen and Mechanics. Decision—The coal allowance of the men concerned to be eight tons a year at a price of 13s. a ton. Issued 16th March. (184)

PIG IRON WORKERS.—Midland Blast Furnacemen's Association v. the Goldendale Iron Co., Ltd., Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent. Decision—Claim for a revision of the present

basic scale of wages, and for the elimination of all war bonuses and other payments agreed upon during the war period, not established. Issued 22nd March. (188)

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Other Metal Trades.

NEEDLE AND FISHING TACKLE MAKERS.—The National Society of Brass and Metal Mechanics v. the Redditch Needle and Fishing Tackle Employers' Association. Decision—The men concerned, 18 years of age and over, to receive an advance of 3s. a week which is to form part of the total earnings of time and pieceworkers upon which the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. respectively are calculated. Issued 3rd March. (175)

BLACKSMITHS AND STRIKERS.—Engineering and the National Employers' Federations v. Associated Blacksmiths and Ironworkers' Society. Decision—The base rate of smiths and strikers concerned to be increased to 43s. and 32s. a week respectively at Leiston, Norwich and Lowestoft, and 43s. and 29s. a week respectively at Lynn from first pay after 1st December, 1919. The rates are exclusive of war advances amounting to 26s. 6d. a week and the bonus on earnings of 12½ per cent. or 7½ per cent. to time or pieceworkers respectively. Issued 10th March. (179)

ENGINEERING AND FOUNDRY TRADES.—Trade Unions signatory to agreement of February, 1917, v. Engineering Employers' Federation (now incorporated in the Engineering and the National Employers' Federations). Decision—Advances in time or day rates of male workers 21 years of age and over other than apprentices, and to male pieceworkers irrespective of age as follows:—(1) 3s. a week or 3d. an hour or 7½ per cent., as the case may be, to take effect from the first pay after 31st March, 1920; (2) 5s. a week or 3d. an hour or 7½ per cent., as the case may be, to take effect from the first pay after 31st May, 1920. The advances to be taken into account in the calculation for overtime, etc., and such allowances as are computed on basis rates, and are to form part of the total earnings upon which the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. are calculated. The advance to timeworkers is to be regarded as being in addition to present time rates, and is to be taken into account for the purpose of fixing new piecework prices. The advance is not applicable to apprentices and junior workers on time, except in the case of labourers where, if it has been the practice before the war to pay to those under 21 years of age who were in receipt of the full rate for labourers the same advances as were granted to those over 21, that practice to be continued, such labourers thus receiving the above advances. This decision applies only to Great Britain. Issued 10th March. (180)

SHIPBUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING TRADES.—Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, National Federation of General Workers v. Shipbuilding Employers' Federation. Decision—Advances in time or day rates of male workers 21 years of age and over other than apprentices, and to male pieceworkers irrespective of age, as follows: (1) 3s. a week or 3d. an hour or 7½ per cent., as the case may be, to take effect from the first pay after 31st March, 1920; (2) 5s. a week or 3d. an hour or 7½ per cent., as the case may be, to take effect from the first pay after 31st May, 1920. The advances to be taken into account in the calculation of overtime and such allowances as are computed on basis rates, and are to form part of the total earnings upon which the bonuses of 12½ per cent. and 7½ per cent. are calculated. The advance to timeworkers is to be regarded as being in addition to present time rates, and is to be taken into account for the purpose of fixing new piecework prices. In the case of labourers on time, where the practice before the war was to pay those under 21 years of age who were in receipt of the full rate for labourers the same advances as were granted to those over 21, that practice to be continued, such labourers thus receiving the above advances. Issued 10th March. (181)

ARMY ORDNANCE DEPÔT WORKERS.—The Workers' Union, the National Union of General Workers v. the Army Council. Decision—From the first pay in February, 1920, the men and women concerned employed at the Royal Army Ordnance Depôt, Chilwell, to receive an advance of 4s. a week, or 1d. an hour. Issued 19th March. (185)

LABOURERS, STOREMEN, &c.—The National Amalgamated Union of Labour v. the Army Council. Decision—From the first pay day in February, 1920, the men concerned engaged at the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Depôt, Aintree, Liverpool, to receive an advance of 4s. a week or 1d. an hour according to the custom of payment; the advance not to apply to men who have received advances since December, 1918, in accordance with awards or general advances in their special trades. Issued 19th March. (186)

LABOURERS.—The National Union of General Workers v. the Army Council. Decision—From the first pay in February, 1920, the men concerned employed at the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Depôt, Georgetown, to receive an advance of 4s. a week or 1d. an hour according to the custom of payment. Issued 20th March. (187)

Industrial Court.—Continued.

WOMEN WORKERS.—The National Union of General Workers v. Greenwood and Bailey, Ltd., Leeds. Decision—The provisions of Award No. 504 of the Interim Court of Arbitration are not applicable to the workpeople concerned employed at the Tong Road Works of the firm in the manufacture and assembling of the accumulators for pocket electric lamps, and in so far as a prescribed rate is applicable, there has been no substituted rate for the women concerned. Issued 22nd March. (190)

RAILWAY SHOPMEN.—Amalgamated Society of Engineers, Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, National Federation of General Workers v. Controlled Railway Companies of Great Britain. Decision—The terms of the decision given in the Engineering and Foundry Trades (see decision No. 180 above), to apply to the men concerned. Issued 23rd March. (191)

RAILWAY WORKERS.—National Union of Railwaymen v. the Controlled Railway Companies of Great Britain. Decision—The terms of the decision given in the Engineering and Foundry Trades (see decision No. 180 above) to apply to the men concerned employed in railway shops; claim of the men employed in generating stations to be dealt with in a supplemental decision; the wages of the women concerned was adjudicated upon so recently as 20th February, 1920, and no case has been made out for a further alteration of wages at the present time. Issued 23rd March. (192)

DRESSERS.—The Associated Iron, Steel and Brass Dressers of Scotland v. Kirkcaldy and District Engineering Masters' Association. Decision—Claim for an advance of 1d. an hour, or alternatively for a rate of 10½d. an hour plus 26s. 6d. a week war wage advance plus 12½ per cent. bonus on total earnings, not established. Issued 25th March. (194)

PATTERNMAKERS.—United Patternmakers' Association v. Clyde Shipbuilders' Association and North West Engineering Trades Employers' Association. Decision—Patternmakers are entitled to the allowance of 3d. an hour granted to joiners and carpenters under Rule 7 (a) as interpreted by the award (No. 707) of the Court of Arbitration in so far as they are engaged under similar conditions on ships or in connection with ship's machinery; they are not entitled to the additional 3d. an hour when employed on their normal work of restoring, altering or repairing patterns. Issued 25th March. (195)

LIGHT CASTINGS TRADE.—The Workers' Union v. David King & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. Decision—The prescribed rate applicable to the women concerned aged 18 years and over is 6d. an hour with a minimum of 24s. a week as laid down in Clause 1 of the Order No. 546 (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918) plus 6s. a week under Clause 41 of that Order plus 5s. a week under Order No. 1073 (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918); the prescribed rate for the girl concerned under 18 years of age is the time rate applicable to her age, as laid down in Clause 4 of the Order No. 546, for a week of 48 hours, plus 5s. a week under Clause 41 of that Order, plus 2s. 6d. a week under Order No. 1073 (Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918); rates of 5s. and 2s. 6d. a week in excess of the above prescribed rates for women and girls respectively have been substituted under award (No. 544) of the Court of Arbitration of 23rd June, 1919 (National Light Castings Ironfounders' Federation) as from the beginning of the first pay in May, 1919. Issued 25th March. (196)

HAMMERMEN.—Amalgamated Society of Steel and Iron Workers v. Scottish Tube Co., Limited, Clydesdale Tube Works, near Glasgow. Decision—Claim for the rate of 1s. 6½d. an hour to be paid to hammermen employed by the company, not established. Issued 30th March. (199)

NUT AND BOLT INDUSTRY—WOMEN.—National Federation of Women Workers v. Tetley & Moore's Screw and Rivet Company, Limited. Decision—The prescribed rates for the workpeople concerned are those set out in Part II. of Statutory Rule and Orders, 1918, No. 546, plus 11s. a week. Issued 30th March. (224)

GENERAL SMITHS.—F. Court v. R. Green, Limited, Cradley Heath. Decision—So far as work done was included in the recognised price list, the bonus provided for by Award No. 85 of the Interim Court of Arbitration should be added to the wages payable under the price list to determine the prescribed rate, and that for the period under review, i.e., the date of the operation of award to December 21st, 1918, there was no substituted rate. For work paid for at special prices fixed by agreement there is no prescribed rate. Issued 31st March. (226)

Textile Trades.

SACK MAKING AND SACK MENDING TRADE (WOMEN).—The Liverpool Sub-Committee of the United Kingdom Jute Goods Association v. National Warehouse and General Workers' Union. Decision—Claim by employers for an increase in the working hours to 47 a week not established. Issued 4th March. (176)

Transport Trades.

CARTING INDUSTRY.—National Transport Workers' Federation v. National Union of Horse and Motor Vehicle Owners' Associations Incorporated, National Alliance of Commercial Road Transport Associations and Federations, Motor Transport Employers' Federation, Bury and District Building Trades Employers' Association, Coal Merchants' Federation of Great Britain, Birmingham and Midland Counties Wholesale Brewers' Association, Derbyshire Brewers' Association, Harrods, Ltd., McNamara & Co., Ltd., Davies & Rees, National Chamber of Trade and the Associated Coal Consumers, Ltd. Decision—The men concerned aged 21 years and over to receive an advance of 5s. a week; the advance also to apply to those under 21 years of age who are engaged on work normally done by men above that age; the decision only applies to England and Wales. Issued 31st March. (225)

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.

WOMEN WOODWORKERS.—The National Union of General Workers v. William Shepherd & Sons (Kendal) Ltd. Decision—If, on 11th November, 1918, the firm who are handle manufacturers, saw millers and timber merchants, were engaged on munition work, the prescribed rate for the women concerned are those laid down for women engaged on woodwork processes other than for aircraft under Statutory Rules and Orders, 1918, No. 546, paragraphs 14, 15 and 41, and Order No. 1073; if the firm were not engaged on munitions work, the prescribed rates of the women concerned are those which were being paid to them on 11th November, 1918. Issued 8th March. (177)

SAWYERS AND WOOD-CUTTING MACHINISTS.—Blackburn Branch of the National Federation of Building Trade Operatives v. Thos. Higson & Sons, Blackburn. Decision—In so far as the men concerned are employed as sawyers on work required for the firm's business as builders and joiners, the prescribed rate was that applicable to the building trade in Blackburn of 1s. 7d. an hour for which rate 1s. 9d. an hour was substituted from 31st October, 1919. In so far as the men are engaged otherwise than in the building trade, the prescribed rate was 1s. 3½d. an hour for which no rate has been substituted. Issued 15th March. (183)

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. Scottish Committee of Chemical Manufacturers. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (220)

Public Utility Services.

MANUAL WORKERS.—National Union of General Workers v. Todmorden Corporation. Decision—The men concerned to receive such further advance as will bring their total weekly war advance up to 35s. Issued 1st March. (172)

WATERWORKS EMPLOYEES (ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT).—The National Union of Waterworks Employees v. the Metropolitan Water Board. Decision—The men concerned aged 18 years and over to receive an advance of 5s. a week from the first pay after 1st February, 1920. Issued 1st March. (173)

WATERWORKS EMPLOYEES (ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT).—The National Union of General Workers and the Steam Engine Makers' Society v. the Metropolitan Water Board. Decision—From the first pay after 1st February, 1920, the men concerned aged 18 years and over (exclusive of those who have been taken on in a temporary capacity, and who are paid full trade union district rate of wages plus any general advances applicable to their classes), to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Issued 1st March. (174)

SWEEPERS, DUSTMEN, CARMEN AND WOMEN.—National Amalgamated Workers' Union v. Kensington Royal Borough Council. Decision—The men concerned to receive an advance of 5s. a week from the first pay after 1st January, 1920, and a further advance of 5s. a week from the first pay after 1st April, 1920. The parties agreed that women should be granted four-fifths of advance paid to able-bodied men. Issued 9th March. (178)

CLERK, SURVEYOR AND INSPECTOR.—National Association of Local Government Officers v. Sevenoaks Urban District Council. Decision—From 17th November, 1919, the men concerned to receive the full Civil Service scale of bonus of £60 a year plus 30 per cent. of base salary, making the rates to be paid as follows: Clerk, salary of £350 plus bonus of £165 a year; Surveyor, salary of £300 plus bonus of £150 a year; Sanitary Inspector, salary of £200 plus bonus of £120 a year. Issued 11th March. (182)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.—Chief Officers of the Board v. Metropolitan Water Board. Decision—From the 1st January, 1920, the clerk, solicitor, director of water examination, accountant and engineer of the Western District to receive an increase of 30 per cent. on their respective salaries of £1,900, £1,350, £1,350, £1,350, and £1,500

Industrial Court.—Continued.

per annum plus in each case a bonus of £60 per annum, in no case the advance to exceed £500 per annum. Issued 24th March. (193)

POOR LAW OFFICERS.—National Poor Law Officers' Association Incorporated v. Wilton Board of Guardians. Decision—Bonuses to be granted to the employees concerned in the terms of the Awards Nos. 84 and 101 of the Civil Service Arbitration Board as from 17th November, 1919, and the bonuses at present being paid to cease; all payments of the existing bonus made since 17th November, 1919, being set off against the amounts due under this decision; the resident and rationed employees to receive one-half of the above bonus; the Clerk to the Guardians to receive such proportion of the flat rate bonus under the awards Nos. 84 and 101 as the time required by his duties under the Board bears to full time, together with the full percentage of his ordinary remuneration; question of determining what portion of the salaries of those employees should be considered as ordinary remuneration and the value of the emoluments left to negotiation between the parties; "ordinary" remuneration to include remuneration by way of allowance, but to exclude war bonus, overtime pay, &c. Issued 29th March. (197)

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL STAFFS.—National Association of Local Government Officers v. Paignton Urban District Council. Decision—Bonuses to be granted as from 17th November, 1919, in the terms of the Awards Nos. 84 and 101 of the Civil Service Arbitration Board, to all the full-time male officers concerned, and the bonuses at present being paid to cease, all payments of the existing bonus made since 17th November, 1919, being set off against the amounts due under this decision; the bonus in the case of the two Assistant Surveyors to be calculated on a base salary of £60 per annum; the Assistant Overseer to receive such proportion of the flat rate bonus under the Awards Nos. 84 and 101 as the time required by his duties under the Council bears to full time, together with the full percentage of his ordinary remuneration; the matron and the nurse to receive one-half of the full scale of war bonus granted by the Awards Nos. 84 and 101 with the same conditions as set forth above for male officers; "ordinary remuneration" to include remuneration by way of allowances, but to exclude war bonus, overtime pay, &c. Issued 29th March. (198)

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.—National Union of General Workers v. Aberdeen Corporation. The men concerned, employed in the following departments of the Corporation, water, cleansing, streets and roads, sewerage, electricity and lamplighters, to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Claim for reduction in hours not established. Issued 30th March. (200)

TRADESMEN AND LABOURERS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Clyde Navigation Trust. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (218)

PAVIORS.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Corporations and Town Councils of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Greenock; the Clyde Navigation Trust, A. & J. Faill, Glasgow. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (219)

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—The Building Trades of Scotland Operatives' Wages and Conditions of Service Board v. the Corporations of Glasgow, Greenock, Edinburgh, Dundee and Aberdeen. Decision—Claim for advance of 6d. an hour on present rates not established. Issued 30th March. (221)

DRIVERS, CONDUCTORS, ETC.—National Amalgamated Workers' Union v. the Liverpool Corporation. Decision—From 1st February, 1920, the employees concerned employed in the tramway department of the Corporation aged 18 years and over to receive an advance of 5s. a week. Issued 30th March. (222)

CHARGE ENGINEERS.—Electrical Power Engineers' Association v. Bootle Corporation (Electric Power and Lighting Committee). Decision—The basis rate of the two members of the technical staff employed by the Corporation as charge engineers is £150 per annum, for purposes of the application of the award by a single arbitrator, dated 27th February, 1919, to members of the Electrical Power Engineers' Association. Issued 31st March. (227)

Miscellaneous Trades.

WAITRESSES, KITCHEN HANDS, &c.—National Federation of Women Workers v. Women's Refreshment Club Committee, Post Office Savings Bank Department, Blythe Road, West Kensington. Decision—The women concerned to be paid from 1st March, 1920, the following rates under the grading scheme in operation: 1st grade, 25s. to 28s. a week; 2nd grade, 23s. to 25s. a week; 3rd grade, 20s. a week. Existing arrangements regarding free meals to continue. Issued 30th March. (223)

INTERPRETATIONS OF INDUSTRIAL COURT AWARDS.

BAKING TRADE—DROGHEDA.—Irish Bakers' National Amalgamated Union and the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union v. Drogheda Master Bakers' Association. Interpretation of decision of the Industrial Court No. 162. The new overtime rates and the reduced hours provided for are to operate from the date of the award. The retrospective period for payment of advance to include 13th February, 1920. Issued 22nd March, 1920. (Interpretation No. 1.)

COKE AND BYE-PRODUCT WORKERS.—National Union of Cokemen and Bye-Product Workers v. Henry Ellison, Ltd. Interpretation of decision of the Industrial Court No. 156. The term "conditions" in Clause 6 of the decision intended to include the prevailing conditions in regard to the supply of free house coal or payment in lieu thereof. Issued 25th March, 1920. (Interpretation No. 2.)

WRITING INK MANUFACTURER.—National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks v. Mr. H. C. Stephens. Interpretation of decision of the Industrial Court No. 148. The minimum rates specified in Clause 6 of the decision are intended to form the remuneration for the existing working week, i.e., 47½ hours in the case of men and 46½ hours in the case of women. Issued 31st March, 1920. (Interpretation No. 3.)

SINGLE ARBITRATORS AND AD HOC COURTS OF ARBITRATION APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LABOUR UNDER THE INDUSTRIAL COURTS ACT, 1919, AND UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and other Metal Trades.

VIEWER AND PASSER.—National Union of Stove Grate and General Metal Workers, National Union of Operative Heating and Domestic Engineers, and the Central Ironfounders v. Messrs. S. Flavell & Co., Ltd., Leamington. Difference—Application as to whether the firm were justified in dismissing a certain employee on the grounds of alleged carelessness. Arbitrator—Mr. W. A. Willis. Agreement—The employers agree to pay the man concerned the same amount per week which he had been receiving before the arbitration until he obtains other work, or for a period of eight weeks, whichever is the shorter. The firm further agreed to give the man, on application, a good character. Signed 16th March, 1920. W.A. 825/2.

Textile Trades.

WEAVERS, &c.—Irish Transport and General Workers' Union v. Kilkenny Woollen Mills, Ltd. Difference—Application for certain advances. Arbitrator—Sir D. Harrel. Award—The present working week of 49½ hours is reduced to 48, without fixing a minimum or altering existing hours for meals. Male workers, 21 years to receive advance of 5s. per week, and youths, 18 to 21 years, and boys under 18, to receive 2s. 6d. per week. Warpers, drawers, and pieceworkers granted an addition to their percentage rates to obtain 100 per cent. above pre-war rates. Women and girl time workers of 48 hours to receive increase of 3s. per week. Effective from the first full pay day following 21st January, 1920. Issued 16th March, 1920. W.A. 2012.

WEAVERS.—Irish Transport and General Workers' Union v. Athlone Woollen Mills Company, Ltd. Difference—Question of retrospective payment of the award dated 25th February, 1920, between the above-mentioned parties. Arbitrator—Sir D. Plunket Barton, Bart. Award—The advance of 2s. per week to be payable from the same date as the 5s. to which it is added. Issued 19th March, 1920. W.A. 1466/2.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

CHEMICAL MANURE OPERATIVES.—Workers' Union v. Messrs. Richardson, Chemical Manure Co., Ltd., Belfast. Difference—Application for an advance of 15s. per week to male adults and equivalent advances to those under 18 years. Arbitrator—Sir D. Plunket Barton, Bart. Award—Increase granted of 6s. on the bonus payable to male adults, 18 years and over, and half this amount to males under 18. Pieceworkers to receive proportionate advances per day, and shift workers per shift. Effective from 29th December, 1919. Issued 7th March, 1920. W.A. 1513/2.

Public Utility Services.

ADMINISTRATIVE, TECHNICAL, &c., STAFFS.—National Association of Local Government Officers v. the County Borough of Salford. Difference—Application as to whether and how the Civil Service scales of War Bonus should be applied to the administrative, technical, professional and clerical staffs of the Corporation. Arbitrator—Sir H. Courthope Munroe, K.C. Award—The application of Award 84 of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board for Government Employees granted as from 1st April, 1919, to the 17th November, 1919, and as from the latter date as amended by Award 101 of the said Board. Merger of existing war bonuses. Other working conditions fixed. Issued 15th March, 1920. W.A. 1758.

AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED BY AN OFFICER OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.**Building and Allied Trades.**

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—National Federation of Building Trade Operatives v. Driffield and District Master Builders' and Allied Trades' Association. Difference—Application for new rates. Agreement—Grade C. rates granted under the Yorkshire Area Scheme; retrospective payment not decided upon. Agreed, 12th February, 1920. W.A. 878.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Operative Society of Masons, Quarrymen and Allied Trades v. Master Builders' Association, Tavistock. Difference—Application for Grade "D" rates under the South-Western Regional Area Scheme. Agreement—Claim conceded: hours of work were left open for consideration. Signed 17th February, 1920. W.A. 1238.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Workers' Union v. Bodmin Master Builders' Association. Difference—Application for a rate of pay equivalent to the Grade "D" rates of the South Western Area, namely, 1s. 5d. per hour for mechanics, 1s. 2½d. per hour for labourers. Agreement—Claim conceded. Working week to consist of 47½ hours, and overtime to be paid at the rate of time and a quarter. Other working conditions fixed. Signed 22nd March, 1920. W.A. 2638.

BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES.—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, National Bricklayers' Labourers' Union, and other Unions concerned v. Air Ministry. Difference—Application as to travelling time at Halton Park. Agreement—Travelling time to be paid on the following basis: 1 to 3 miles, 1 hour per day; 3 to 4 miles, 1½ hours per day; 4 to 5 miles, 1¾ hours per day; over 5 miles, 2 hours per day. Effective as from 25th March, the old system of payment to be reverted to as from the date on which it was suspended to the 24th March inclusive. Signed 24th March, 1920. W.A. 1490.

Mining and Quarrying.

MINERS.—National Union of Scottish Mine Workers v. the Wanlockhead Lead Mining Company, Ltd., and the Leadhills Company, Ltd. Difference—Application for certain alterations in wages and working conditions. Agreement—Provision is made for dealing with future disputes and certain increases, varying from 12s. to 3s. per week, fixed in detail. Effective on and from 17th March, 1920. Signed 17th March, 1920. W.A. 3611.

Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

PUDDLERS AND FORGEMEN.—Association of Puddlers and Forgemens of Great Britain v. Messrs. Roberts and Cooper, Ltd., Brierley Hill. Difference—(1) Stoppage of men's pay owing to shortage of materials. (2) Prosecution of a certain man. (3) Irregular methods of payment. (4) Midland Wages Board—week in hand. Agreement—(1) Union agrees with the principle of "the week in hand" of the Midland Wages Board Agreement, the firm to advance to the men £6 per furnace, viz., £4 to forehand and £2 to the underhand puddlers, or £3 each to level hand puddlers. The amount to be repaid at a fixed rate. (2) The firm agreed to pay the fine, and the Union the costs incurred. (3) In the event of any disputes occurring in the future, the firm should notify the union before taking drastic action. (4) Work to be resumed on 22nd March, 1920. Signed 20th March, 1920. W.A. 1743.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Other Metal Trades.

WAREHOUSEMEN, &c.—National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks v. Messrs. Townson and Mercer, Messrs. A. Gallenkamp and Co., and Messrs. J. J. Griffin and Sons, Ltd., Scientific Instrument Apparatus Manufacturers, all of London. Difference—Application for certain alterations in working conditions. Agreement—Minimum rates fixed in detail. In the case of hours it was decided that Messrs. Griffin should continue to work the 44 hour week, reserving the right to call upon any of their employees to work 47 hours without extra pay. Signed 23rd March, 1920. W.A. 1553.

Clothing Trades.

MANAGERS AND ASSISTANTS.—National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks v. Messrs. W. Gillespy & Co., Ltd., Gateshead-upon-Tyne. Difference—Application for increased rates. Agreement—Managers to receive a minimum of £4 per week up to £100 weekly turnover and 5s. for each additional £50. Female shop assistants to receive from 10s. to 34s. per week according to age. Certain manageresses and senior women to be paid extra ability money. Signed 25th March, 1920. W.A. 3610.

Transport Trades.

ENGINEERS' LABOURERS, &c.—National Union of General Workers v. Messrs. S. Williams and Sons, Lightermen and Contractors, Dagenham. Difference—Application for an increase of 2d. an hour. Agreement—Claim conceded. Effective from 16th February, 1920. Signed 24th March, 1920. W.A. 1984.

Fishing Trade.

FISHERMEN.—National Union of British Fishermen v. Hartlepool Trawler Owners' Federation. Difference—Application with regard to rates of pay and working conditions. Agreement—No alteration made with regard to masters and mates. Third hand, deck hand, trimmers or firemen, and cook to receive 11s. 6d. per day plus certain allowances. Men who remain in their ships 13 consecutive weeks to receive 30s. per quarter. Time in dock fixed. Effective as from 17th March, 1920. Signed 17th March, 1920. W.A. 3567.

Chemical, Explosives, Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass Trades.

LABOURERS, &c.—National Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society v. Messrs. Southwood, Jones & Co., Ltd. Difference—Application for certain alterations in wages and working conditions of men employed at the Graigddu Brickworks, Pontnewydd. Agreement—Rates of wages fixed in detail varying from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 6d. per hour. Women and girls to receive advance of 2s. 6d., and boys 2s. per week. Other working conditions fixed. Effective on 1st March, 1920. Signed 27th February, 1920. W.A. 8652.

LABOURERS, &c.—National Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society v. the Blaendare Company, Ltd., Pontypool. Difference—Application for certain alterations in wages and working conditions. Agreement—Rates of wages fixed in detail varying from 1s. 10d. to 1s. 6d. per hour. Women and girls to receive advance of 2s. 6d., and boys 2s. per week. Other working conditions fixed. Effective on 1st March, 1920. Signed 27th February, 1920. W.A. 8652.

BRICK WORKERS.—National Builders' Labourers and Constructional Workers' Society v. Pontypool Brick Company, Ltd. Difference—Application for certain advances. Agreement—Wages of men, women and girls fixed in detail, wages of boys advanced by 2s. per week, working conditions specified. Effective on March 1st, 1920. Signed 27th February, 1920. W.A. 8652.

LABOURERS, &c.—National Union of General Workers v. the Low Temperature Carbonisation, Ltd., Barnsley. Difference—Application for certain rate of wages. Agreement—Rates of all workpeople employed as labourers to be 1s. 4½d. per hour inclusive, as fixed by the Chemical Trade Employers' Federation. The future rates of the men concerned to be ruled by those in the chemical trades for labourers and process men respectively. The bonus of 1d. per hour, conditional upon good timekeeping and good work to be continued, the management reserving the right to withdraw the bonus at any time after giving a few days notice. Effective as from the pay day immediately following 1st December, 1919. Signed 19th March, 1920. W.A. 1507.

POTTERY WORKERS.—National Society of Pottery Workers and the National Union of General Workers v. English Stoneware Manufacturers' Association. Difference—Application for certain advances. Agreement—Increases granted of 5s. per week to men 21 years and over; 3s. 6d. to women 18 years and over; 3s. to men 18 to 21 years; 2s. to boys under 18, and girls 15 to 18 years, and 1s. to girls under 15 years. Other working conditions fixed. Effective from 1st April, 1920. Signed 22nd March, 1920. W.A. 8062.

Food and Drink Trades.

CLERKS.—National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants v. Star Tea Company, London. Difference—Application for certain minimum rates. Agreement—Minimum rates fixed varying from 23s. to 71s. for men, and from 19s. to 56s. for women, according to age. Increase granted of 2s. per week to all workers 20 years and under, and 3s. to those 20 years and over. This advance is not to be operative where the present rate is over 71s. Agreed, 19th February, 1920. W.A. 1018.

Leather Trades.

LEATHER LACE CUTTERS.—Amalgamated Society of Leather Workers v. Messrs. Samuel Yarwood & Son, Ltd., Manchester. Difference—Application for a 20 per cent. increase on present rates, with 20 per cent. retrospective pay to November 1st, 1919. Agreement—Advance granted of 12½ per cent. as from 1st November, 1919, and at the end of 8 weeks a further 2½ per cent. if the price of raw materials will allow same. Signed, 14th March, 1920. W.A. 2744.

Miscellaneous Trades.

RUBBER WORKERS.—Workers' Union v. Associated Rubber Manufacturers, Ltd., Harpenden. Difference—Application for increased wages. Agreement—Men and women to receive all advances which have been given in the Rubber Trade between the dates of August, 1914, and March, 1920, over and above pre-war rates for the jobs upon which the workpeople concerned are at present engaged. Effective on the first full pay following the date of resumption of work. Signed 1st March, 1920. W.A. 1043.

TRADE BOARDS ACTS, 1909 AND 1918.

MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FIXED AND VARIED.

IN pursuance of his statutory powers, the Minister of Labour has made Orders, as set out below, under Section 4 (2) of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, confirming minimum rates of wages fixed or as varied by the following Trade Boards. These rates become effective as from the dates specified, in cases in which they are applicable, in respect of all persons employing labour and all persons employed in the trades coming within the scope of the respective Trade Boards. Where, however, as respects any employer who pays wages at intervals not exceeding seven days, the date specified does not correspond with the beginning of the period for which wages are paid by the employer, the rates become effective as from the beginning of the next full pay period following the date specified.

The penalty for paying wages at less than the minimum rates is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence, but in the case of time workers affected by infirmity or physical injury the Trade Board may, in certain circumstances, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum rates.

Further particulars regarding these minimum rates of wages may be obtained from the Secretary of the Trade Board concerned at 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2, in the case of Trade Boards in Great Britain, and at Office of Trade Boards, Lord Edward Street, Dublin, in the case of Irish Trade Boards.

Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland).

ORDER, DATED 8TH MARCH, 1920, CONFIRMING GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES AS VARIED, AND PIECE-WORK BASIS TIME-RATES FIXED FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS AND MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM 12TH MARCH, 1920.

I.—General Minimum Time-Rates.

(a) Male Workers other than learners:—

Table with 2 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d. and Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes Cutters, Knifemen, Tailors, Fitters-up, Passers, Pressers and Machinists; Under-pressers and Plain Machinists; All other male workers.

Male Learners:—

Table with 2 columns: Age group, Rate (Per hour s. d. and Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes When employed under 15 years of age, at 15 and under 16 years of age, etc.

A male learner commencing employment in the trade at or over the age of 19 shall be entitled to:—

Table with 2 columns: Period of employment, Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For first 6 months of employment, For second 6 months of employment, and thereafter the general minimum time-rate applicable above.

The learners' rates are weekly rates based on a week of 48 hours, but are subject to a proportionate deduction or increase according as the number of hours actually spent by the learner in the factory or workshop is less or more than 48.

(b) Female Workers other than learners ... 8d. per hour. Female Learners:—

Table with 5 columns: Period of employment, Learners commencing at (14 and under 15 years, 15 and under 16 years, 16 and under 21 years, 21 years of age and over), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes 1st 6 months, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th.

The learners' rates are weekly rates based on a week of 48 hours, but are subject to a proportionate deduction or increase according as the number of hours actually spent by the learner in the factory or workshop is less or more than 48.

II.—Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.

(a) Male Workers:—

Table with 2 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.). Includes Cutters, Knifemen, Tailors, Fitters-up, Passers, Pressers and Machinists; Under Pressers and Plain Machinists; All other male workers.

Corset Trade Board.

ORDER, DATED 10TH MARCH, 1920, CONFIRMING GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES, PIECE-WORK BASIS TIME-RATES AND OVERTIME RATES AS VARIED FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF MALE WORKERS, AND MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM 15TH MARCH, 1920.

I.—General Minimum Time-Rates and Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, General Minimum Time-rate (Per hour s. d.), Piece-Work Basis Time-rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per hour s. d.). Includes Male workers employed as Cutters, Markers-out (other than Process Workers), Hand Pressers, Matchers-up and Shaders who have had not less than 3 years' experience after the age of 19 years in one or more of these occupations; Male workers employed as Folders, Hand Fitters, Parters, Separators and Makers-up who have had not less than 3 years' experience after the age of 19 years in one or more of these occupations.

II.—Overtime Rates.

The overtime rates to apply in substitution for the above minimum rates of wages in respect of all hours worked in excess of the normal number of hours of work as declared by the Trade Board are as follows:—

For the first two hours' overtime on any day except Saturdays, Sundays, and Customary Public and Statutory Holidays, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER.

For overtime AFTER FIRST TWO HOURS' overtime on any day except Sundays and Customary Public and Statutory Holidays, and for all overtime on Saturdays, TIME-AND-A-HALF.

For all time worked on Sundays and Customary Public and Statutory Holidays, DOUBLE TIME.

For all hours worked in any week in excess of 48, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER, except in so far as higher overtime rates are payable under the provisions above.

For the purpose of these overtime rates the normal number of hours of work has been declared to be: in any week, 48; on any day (other than Saturday), 9; on Saturday, 5.

Paper Bag Trade Board (Great Britain).

ORDER, DATED 10TH MARCH, 1920, CONFIRMING GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES AND OVERTIME RATES AS VARIED FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF MALE WORKERS, AND MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM 15TH MARCH, 1920.

I.—General Minimum Time-rates.

(a) For Machine Tacklers and Paper Bag Cutters:—

Table with 4 columns: Age group, Machine Tacklers (Per Hour, Per Week of 48 hours), Paper Bag Cutters (Per Hour, Per Week of 48 hours). Includes At 18 and under 19 years of age, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 years of age and over.

Provided that, in the case of Male workers entering the trade for the first time at the age of 21 years and over, either as Machine Tacklers (as defined by the Trade Board) or as Paper Bag Cutters, the General Minimum Time-Rates for such workers shall be as follows:—

Machine Tacklers.

Table with 4 columns: Period of service, Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes During the 1st 12 months of service as a Machine Tackler, During the 2nd 12 months of service as a Machine Tackler, etc.

Paper Bag Cutters.

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes During the 1st 12 months of service as a Paper Bag Cutter, During the 2nd 12 months of service as a Paper Bag Cutter, etc.

(b) For Hydraulic Pressers, Slitters, Stock-Keepers, Packers, and Despatchers of 21 years of age and over:—

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes During the 1st 12 months of service after the age of 21 years in any one of the above occupations, During the 2nd 12 months of service after the age of 21 years in the same occupation, etc.

II.—Overtime Rates.

The overtime rates to apply in substitution for the above minimum rates of wages in respect of all hours worked in excess of the normal number of hours of work as declared by the Trade Board are as follows:—

For overtime on any day except Sundays and customary Public and Statutory Holidays:—

(1) First two hours, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER.

(2) After first two hours, TIME-AND-A-HALF.

For all time worked on Sundays and customary Public and Statutory Holidays, DOUBLE TIME.

For all hours worked in any week in excess of 48, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER, except in so far as higher overtime rates are payable under the provisions above.

For the purpose of these overtime rates the normal number of hours of work has been declared to be:—In any week, 48; on any day (other than Saturday), 9; on Saturday, 5.

Boot and Shoe Repairing Trade Board (Ireland).

ORDER, DATED 22ND MARCH, 1920, CONFIRMING GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES, GENERAL MINIMUM PIECE-RATES AND OVERTIME RATES FIXED FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS, AND MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM 29TH MARCH, 1920.

I.—General Minimum Time-rates.

(a) Male Workers:—

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For Workers of 21 years of age and upwards, For Workers of 20 years and under 21 years of age, etc.

Provided that the rates set out above shall not apply to male apprentices as defined by the Trade Board.

Provided also that a male worker of the age of 18 years or under shall, for the first twelve months' employment in the trade, be entitled to a rate 25 per cent. less than the rate otherwise applicable.

(b) Female Workers:—

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For Workers of 21 years of age and upwards, For Workers of 20 years and under 21 years of age, etc.

Provided that a female worker of the age of 18 years or under shall, for the first twelve months' employment in the trade, be entitled to a rate 25 per cent. less than the rate otherwise applicable.

The above rates are weekly rates based on a week of 48 hours, but are subject to a proportionate deduction according as the number of hours actually spent in the factory or workshop in any week is less than 48.

II.—Overtime Rates.

For male and female workers engaged on Time-work in respect of hours worked in excess of the normal number of hours of work as declared by the Trade Board:—

For overtime on any day except Sundays and customary Public and Statutory Holidays:—

(1) First two hours, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER.

(2) After first two hours, TIME-AND-A-HALF.

For all time worked on Sundays and customary Public and Statutory Holidays, DOUBLE TIME. Provided that broken periods of overtime of less than half-an-hour shall be reckoned as half-an-hour.

For the purposes of these overtime rates the normal number of hours of work have been declared to be:—In any week, 48; on Saturday (or the substituted half-holiday), 4; on Monday, 8; on any other week-day, 9.

Chain Trade Board (Great Britain).

ORDER, dated 27th March, 1920, confirming minimum rates of wages as varied by providing that the general minimum time-rates and the general minimum piece-rates for hand-hammered and dollied or tommied chainmaking in Great Britain in operation until 1st April, 1920, shall continue in operation until 30th September, 1920, excepting only that the general minimum piece-rate for making from iron of size number 8 (I.S.W.G.) coil chain with 12 links per foot (Masterman) shall be 57s. 5d. per cwt.

Rope, Twine and Net Trade Board (Great Britain).

ORDER, DATED 31ST MARCH, 1920, CONFIRMING GENERAL MINIMUM TIME-RATES, PIECE-WORK BASIS TIME-RATES AND OVERTIME RATES FIXED FOR MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS, AND MADE EFFECTIVE AS FROM 2ND APRIL, 1920.

I.—General Minimum Time-rates.

(a) Female Workers:—

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For workers other than home-workers: Workers of 18 years of age and upwards, 17½, 17, 16½, 16, 15, under 15 years of age.

Provided that workers entering the trade for the first time at or over the age of 16 years may be employed for a period not exceeding six months at a minimum rate which is less by ½d. per hour than the minimum rate applicable under the above scale.

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For home-workers: 2nd April, 1920, to 1st October, 1920, 2nd October, 1920, to 1st April, 1921, As from 2nd April, 1921.

(b) Male Workers:—

Table with 4 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes Workers of: 21 years of age and over, 20 and under 21 years of age, 19, 18, 17, 16, 15, Under 15 years of age.

II.—Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.

(a) Female Workers ... 9d. per hour.

Table with 3 columns: Occupation, Rate (Per hour s. d.), Rate (Per week of 48 hours s. d.). Includes For Male Workers: 2nd April, 1920, to 1st October, 1920, 2nd October, 1920, to 1st April, 1921, As from 2nd April, 1921.

III.—Overtime Rates.

For male and female workers, whether engaged on time-work or piece-work:—

First two hours' overtime on any day except Saturdays, Sundays and Customary Public and Statutory Holidays, TIME-AND-A-QUARTER.

Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Tin Box Trade Board (Great Britain) have (with the consent of the Minister of Labour) issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 11th March, 1920, to vary the general minimum time-rates, piece-work basis time-rates, and overtime rates for male and female workers. The variations proposed are set out below:—

I.—Proposed General Minimum Time-rates and Piece-work Basis Time-rates.

(a) Female Workers.

	General Minimum Time-Rates.		Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.
	Per week of 48 hours.	Per hour.	
For Female Workers under 15 years of age.	s. d. 14 6	d. 3½	s. d. 18 0
For Female Workers of 15 and under 16 years of age.	19 3	4½	24 0
For Female Workers of 16 and under 17 years of age.	24 0	6	30 0
For Female Workers of 17 and under 18 years of age.	28 9	7½	36 0
For Female Workers of 18 years of age and upwards.	36 0	9	45 0

(b) Male Workers.

	General Minimum Time-Rates.		Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.
	Per week of 48 hours.	Per hour.	
I.—For Male Workers of 21 years of age and upwards employed as Knife Hands or Press Hands.	s. d. 68 0	s. d. 1s. 1 5	s. d. 85 0

	General Minimum Time-Rates.		Piece-Work Basis Time-Rates.
	Per week of 48 hours.	Per hour.	
II.—For all other Male Workers:	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
For Male Workers under 15 years of age.	15 0	i.e. 0 3½	18 9
For Male Workers of 15 and under 16 years of age.	20 0	0 5	25 0
For Male Workers of 16 and under 17 years of age.	25 0	0 6½	31 3
For Male Workers of 17 and under 18 years of age.	30 0	0 7½	37 6
For Male Workers of 18 and under 19 years of age.	42 0	0 10½	52 6
For Male Workers of 19 and under 20 years of age.	48 0	1 0	60 0
For Male Workers of 20 and under 21 years of age.	54 0	1 1½	67 6
For Male Workers of 21 years of age and upwards.	60 0	1 3	75 0

II.—Proposed Overtime Rates.

The overtime rates in substitution for the above minimum rates of wages in respect of hours worked in excess of the normal number of hours of work as declared by the Trade Board for male and female workers of all ages are to be calculated in the same manner as those at present in operation.

Hollow-ware Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Hollow-ware Trade Board (Great Britain) have (with the consent of the Minister of Labour) issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 11th March, 1920, to vary the general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for female workers as set out below:—

I.—Proposed General Minimum Time-rates.
Female Workers.

	Per week of 47 hours.
Female learners of under 15 years of age	s. d. 13 9
„ „ 15 and under 16 years of age	16 9
„ „ 16 „ 17 „	21 3
„ „ 17 „ 18 „	25 3

Provided that a female learner entering the trade over the age of 16 may serve a period of one year as a learner at the following general minimum time-rates, that is to say:—

First six months	18s. 3d. per week of 47 hours.
Second six months	19s. 6d. „ „

Thereafter the minimum rate shall be that applicable to the worker's age.

Female workers other than learners 34 3

II.—Proposed Overtime Rates.

Calculated on the above minimum rates of wages in the same manner as those at present in operation.

Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Laundry Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 23rd March, 1920, to fix general minimum time-rates and overtime rates for certain classes of male workers as set out below:—

Proposed General Minimum Time-rates and Overtime Rates for Male Wash-House and General Inside Workers.

	General Minimum Time-rates.		Overtime rates.
	Per week.	Per hour.	
(a) Workers of under 15 years of age	s. d. 15 0	s. d. 0 4½	
„ 15 and under 16 years of age	18 0	0 5½	
„ 16 and under 17 years of age	22 0	0 7	
„ 17 and under 18 years of age	28 0	0 8½	
„ 18 and under 19 years of age	36 0	0 11½	
„ 19 and under 20 years of age	44 0	1 1½	
„ 20 and under 21 years of age	52 0	1 4½	
„ 21 years of age and over	60 0	1 6½	

(b) Provided that in the case of any worker who enters the trade for the first time at or over the age of 17 years and under 21 years of age, and who is employed on Time-work, the Minimum Rates payable during the first six months of employment in the trade shall be:—

	General Minimum Time-rates.	Overtime rates.
	Per week.	Per hour.
	s. d.	s. d.
For Workers entering the trade at 17 and under 18 years of age	22 0	0 7
For Workers entering the trade at 18 and under 19 years of age	28 0	0 8½
For Workers entering the trade at 19 and under 20 years of age	36 0	0 11½
For Workers entering the trade at 20 and under 21 years of age	44 0	1 1½

On the completion of six months' employment in the trade the minimum rate payable shall be that applicable to a worker according to his age as set out in (a) above.

(c) Provided also that in the case of any worker who enters the trade for the first time at or over the age of 21 years and who is employed on timework, the Minimum Rates payable during the first twelve months of employment shall be:—

	General Minimum Time-rates.	Overtime rates.
	Per week.	Per hour.
	s. d.	s. d.
During the first six months of employment	52 0	1 4½
During the second six months of employment	56 0	1 5½

On the completion of twelve months' employment in the trade, the Minimum Rate payable shall be the full Minimum Rate of 60s. per week.

The above general minimum time-rates are for a week not exceeding 48 hours, and, except in certain specified cases set out by the Trade Board, no deductions shall be made from such rates where the number of hours of work in a week is less than 48.

The normal number of hours of work proposed to be declared are 48 per week and 5 on Saturday (or on such other weekly short day as has been substituted for Saturday in pursuance of the provisions of Section 43 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as respects female workers).

Button-Making Trade Board (Great Britain).

The Button-making Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 26th March, 1920, to fix general minimum time-rates, piecework basis time-rates and overtime rates as set out below:—

I.—Proposed General Minimum Time-Rates.

A.—Male Workers.

(i) For male workers employed in stamping, burnishing, spinning, dipping, staining, sawing, turning or cutting (other than cutting on wet lathes):—

Workers of 21 years of age and over:—

	Per hour.
	s. d.
(a) Who have had not less than two years' experience in one or more of the aforesaid operations	1 6
(b) Who have had not less than one but less than two years' experience in one or more of the aforesaid operations	1 5
(c) Who have had less than one year's experience in one or more of the aforesaid operations	1 4
Workers of 20 and under 21 years of age	1 3
„ 19 „ 20 „ „	1 0
„ 18 „ 19 „ „	0 10
(ii) For all other male workers of 18 years of age and over:—	
Workers of 21 years of age and over	1 3½
„ 20 and under 21 years of age	1 2
„ 19 „ 20 „ „	1 1
„ 18 „ 19 „ „	1 0
(iii) For all male workers under 18 years of age:—	
Workers of 17 and under 18 years of age	0 8½
„ 16 „ 17 „ „	0 6
„ 15 „ 16 „ „	0 5
„ under 15 years of age	0 4

B.—Female Workers.

	Per hour.
	s. d.
Workers of 18 years of age and over	0 8½
„ 17 and under 18 years of age	0 7½
„ 16 „ 17 „ „	0 6
„ 15 „ 16 „ „	0 5
„ under 15 years of age	0 4

II.—Proposed Piece-work Basis Time-rates.

	Per hour.
	s. d.
(a) For male workers employed in Stamping, Burnishing, Spinning, Dipping, Staining, Sawing, Turning or Cutting (other than Cutting on Wet Lathes)	1 10½
(b) For all female workers	0 10

III.—Proposed Overtime Rates.

(a) Male and female workers employed on time-work:—

- For all hours worked on Sundays and on Customary Public and Statutory Holidays (not including Good Friday when Easter Tuesday is not worked, and not including Easter Tuesday when Good Friday is not worked), DOUBLE TIME.
- For all hours worked in excess of five on a Saturday, TIME-AND-A-HALF in respect of each such hour of overtime in excess of 47 hours in the week, and TIME-AND-A-QUARTER in respect of each hour of Overtime which is not in excess of 47 hours in the week.
- For all hours in excess of 47 in any week, the Overtime Rate shall be equivalent to TIME-AND-A-QUARTER, except in so far as higher Overtime Rates are payable under the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) above.

(b) Female workers employed on piece-work:—

Female workers employed on Piece-work shall be entitled, in respect of each hour worked in excess of 47 hours in any week, to receive over and above Piece-Rates each of which would yield, in the circumstances of the case, at least 10d. an hour to an Ordinary Worker, THE SUM OF 1d. PER HOUR.

Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland).

The Linen and Cotton Embroidery Trade Board (Ireland) have issued a Notice of Proposal, dated 1st April, 1920, to vary the general minimum time-rates and the general minimum piece-rates at present in operation for female workers. The general minimum time-rates proposed are set out below:—

Proposed General Minimum Time-rates.

	Per hour.
	s. d.
For workers engaged in Thread drawing, Drawn-thread work, Top-sewing and Hand Embroidery (excluding Sparring)	0 4½
For workers engaged in Sparring and Clipping	0 5½
„ „ Nickelling	0 5½

NEW TRADE BOARDS.

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Scotland).

The Minister of Labour has made Regulations, dated 29th March, 1920, with respect to the Constitution and Proceedings of the Trade Board to be established in Scotland under and by virtue of the Trade Boards (Women's

Clothing) Order, 1919, for Dressmaking and the making of Women's Light Clothing, that is to say:—

Those branches of the women's clothing trade that are engaged in the making of non-tailored garments, namely, the making from textile or knitted fabrics of (a) non-tailored wearing apparel (other than handkerchiefs) worn by women, or girls or by children without distinction of sex, or (b) boys' ready-made washing suits or sailor suits, where carried out in association with or in conjunction with the making of garments to be worn by women or girls or by children without distinction of sex including:—

- All operations and processes of cutting, making or finishing by hand or machine of dresses, non-tailored skirts, wraps, blouses, blouse-ropes, jumpers, sports-coats, neckwear, tea-gowns, dressing-gowns, dressing-jackets, pyjamas, under-clothing, undershirts, aprons, overalls, nurses' and servants' caps, juvenile clothing, baby-linen or similar non-tailored articles;
- The making of field bonnets, sun bonnets, boudoir caps, or infants' millinery where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making of any of the articles mentioned in paragraph 1 above;
- (a) The altering, repairing, renovating or remaking of any of the above-mentioned articles;
- (b) The cleaning of any of the above-mentioned articles where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the altering, repairing, renovating or remaking of such articles;
- All processes of embroidery or decorative needle-work where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making, altering, repairing, renovating or remaking of such articles other than hand embroidery or hand-drawn thread work on articles made of linen or cotton or of mixed linen and cotton;
- The following processes if done by machine: thread-drawing, thread-clipping, top-sewing, scalloping, nickelling, and paring;
- Laundering, smoothing, folding, ornamenting, boxing, packing, warehousing or other operations incidental to or appertaining to the making, altering, repairing, renovating or remaking of any of the above-mentioned articles;

but excluding:—

- The making of knitted articles; the making of under-clothing, socks, and stockings, from knitted fabrics; and the making from knitted fabrics of articles mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of the knitted fabric;
- The making of gloves, spats, gaiters, boots, shoes, and slippers;
- The making of headgear, other than the articles mentioned in paragraph 2 above;
- The branches of trade covered by the Trade Boards (Corset) Order, 1919;
- The making of rubberised or oilskin garments;
- The making of women's collars and cuffs and of nurses' stiff washing belts, where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making of men's or boys' shirts or collars;
- Warehousing, packing and other similar operations carried on in shops mainly engaged in the retail distribution of articles of any description that are not made on the premises.

The Trade Board has been established in accordance with these Regulations and consists of:—

- Three appointed members, namely:—
 Sheriff Principal J. M. Irvine, K.C.,
 Professor D. H. Macgregor,
 Mrs. R. K. Hannay, O.B.E.
- Seventeen members representing employers and seventeen members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers and workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

Provision is made for not more than six additional representative members (half to be representatives of employers and half to be representatives of workers) to serve upon the Trade Board if the Minister of Labour, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, thinks additional representation necessary in order to secure proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Sheriff Principal J. M. Irvine, K.C., to be Chairman, Professor D. H. Macgregor to be Deputy-Chairman, and Mr. F. Popplewell to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

The Trade Board will be known as "The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Scotland)."

Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Ireland).

The Minister of Labour has made Regulations, dated 31st March, 1920, with respect to the Constitution and Proceedings of the Trade Board to be established in Ireland under and by virtue of the Trade Boards (Women's Clothing) Order, 1919, for Dressmaking and the Making of Women's Light Clothing, that is to say:—

Those branches of the women's clothing trade as defined above in the case of the Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Scotland).

The Trade Board has been established in accordance with these Regulations and consists of:—

- (1) Three appointed members, namely:—
The Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., &c., &c.
Mr. Herbert M. Thompson, K.C.,
Miss Mary Hayden.

- (2) Fourteen members representing employers and fourteen members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers and workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

Provision is made for not more than six additional representative members (half to be representatives of employers and half to be representatives of workers) to serve upon the Trade Board if the Minister of Labour, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, thinks additional representation necessary in order to secure the proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers.

The Minister of Labour has appointed the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., etc., etc., to be Chairman, Mr. Herbert M. Thompson, K.C., to be Deputy Chairman, and Mr. R. R. Bowman to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

The Trade Board will be known as "The Dressmaking and Women's Light Clothing Trade Board (Ireland)."

Wholesale Mantle and Costume Trade Board (Ireland).

The Minister of Labour has made Regulations, dated 31st March, 1920, with respect to the Constitution and Proceedings of the Trade Board to be established in Ireland under and by virtue of the Trade Boards (Women's Clothing) Order, 1919, for Wholesale Mantle and Costume Making, that is to say:—

Women's, girls' and children's ready-made and wholesale bespoke tailoring, and all women's, girls' and children's retail bespoke tailoring carried on in a factory where garments are made up for three or more retail establishments, and any other branch of women's, girls' and children's tailoring which is not included within the scope of the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board;

including:—

1. All operations and processes of cutting, making or finishing by hand or machine of coats, costumes, tailored skirts, coat-frocks, mantles, service clothing or similar garments made by tailoring processes;

2. (a) The altering, repairing, renovating or re-making of any of the above-mentioned tailored garments, except where included within the scope of the Retail Bespoke Tailoring Trade Board;

- (b) The cleaning of such garments where carried out in association with or in conjunction with the altering, repairing, renovating or re-making of the garments;

3. The lining with fur of any of the above-mentioned garments where carried out in association with or in conjunction with the making of such garments;

4. (a) All processes of embroidery or decorative needle-work where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making, altering, repairing, renovating or re-making of any of the above-mentioned tailored garments other than hand-embroidery or hand-drawn thread work on garments made of linen or cotton or of mixed linen and cotton;

- (b) The following processes if done by machine, namely, thread-drawing, thread-clipping, top-sewing, scalloping, nickelling and paring;

5. Warehousing, packing and all other operations incidental to or appertaining to any of the above-mentioned branches of tailoring;

but excluding:—

1. Those branches of women's or girls' bespoke tailoring and all operations or processes covered by the Trade Boards (Tailoring) Order, 1919;

2. The making of head-gear;

3. The making of rubberised or oilskin garments;

4. Warehousing, packing and other similar operations carried on in shops mainly engaged in the retail

distribution of articles of any description that are not made on the premises.

The Trade Board has been established in accordance with these Regulations and consists of:—

- (1) Three appointed members, namely:—
The Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., etc., etc.
Mr. Henry Oughton.
Miss Florence Clark.

- (2) Six members representing employers and six members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers and workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

Provision is made for not more than four additional representative members (half to be representatives of employers and half to be representatives of workers) to serve upon the Trade Board if the Minister of Labour, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, thinks additional representation necessary in order to secure the proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers.

The Minister of Labour has appointed the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., etc., etc., to be Chairman, Mr. Henry Oughton to be Deputy Chairman, and Mr. R. R. Bowman to be Secretary of the Trade Board. The Trade Board will be known as "The Wholesale Mantle and Costume Trade Board (Ireland)."

Hat, Cap, and Millinery Trade Board (Scotland).

The Minister of Labour has made Regulations, dated 31st March, 1920, with respect to the Constitution of the Trade Board for the Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade in Scotland, as specified in the Trade Boards (Hat, Cap and Millinery) Order, 1919, namely:—

The making from any material of men's, women's, or children's headgear, or the trimming thereof;

including:—

- Warehousing, packing, or other operations incidental to or appertaining to the making or trimming of men's, women's, or children's headgear;

but excluding:—

1. The casting and making of solid metal helmets;

2. The making of rubberised or oilskin headgear where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making of other rubberised or oilskin articles;

3. The making of nurses' or servants' caps, chefs' caps, hospital ward caps, or similar articles;

4. The making of field bonnets, sun bonnets, boudoir caps, or infants' millinery where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the making of dresses, non-tailored skirts, wraps, blouses, blouse-ropes, jumpers, sports coats, neck-wear, tea gowns, dressing gowns, dressing jackets, pyjamas, underclothing, undershirts, aprons, overalls, nurses' and servants caps, juvenile clothing, baby linen, or similar articles;

5. The making of fur hats, where made in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of furs or furriers' skins into garments, rugs, or similar articles;

6. The making of knitted headgear and the making of headgear from knitted fabrics where carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of the knitted fabric;

7. Warehousing and packing of men's, women's, or children's headgear and other similar operations carried on in shops mainly engaged in the retail distribution of articles of any description that are not made or trimmed on the premises.

The Trade Board has been established in accordance with these Regulations, and consists of:—

- (1) Three appointed members, namely:—
Sheriff Principal J. M. Irvine, K.C.
Professor D. H. Macgregor.

- (2) Eleven members representing employers and eleven members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour, after considering names supplied by such employers and workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

Provision is made for not more than four additional representative members (half to be representatives of employers and half to be representatives of workers) to serve upon the Trade Board if the Minister of Labour, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, thinks additional representation necessary in order to secure the proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers.

The Minister of Labour has appointed Sheriff Principal

NATIONAL INSURANCE (UNEMPLOYMENT) ACTS, 1911 TO 1919.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

DECISION BY THE UMPIRE.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Minister of Labour hereby gives Notice of the following decision by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

B. The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—

2462. Persons who are undergoing a course of training at a training centre or with a private firm under one of the various schemes, either of the Appointments Branch or of the Industrial Training Branch of the Ministry of Labour, and who are receiving either a full or partial allowance from the Ministry and who are not covered by the Decisions 2457X and 2458.

NOTE.—Decisions in which the Umpire has decided that contributions are payable under the National Insurance (Part II.) (Munition Workers) Act, 1916, are indicated by the letter X at the end of the number, e.g., 1554X. Contributions under these decisions are payable as from the 4th September, 1916.

Where no reference is given to an Application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no question of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS.

MARCH, 1920.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for Examination.*
Aughrim (Wicklow)	Dr. T. Sheedy, Dispensary House, Aughrim.	Dispensary House, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Ballylunan (Queen's Co.)	Dr. J. H. McKenna, Ballylunan, Athy, Co. Kildare.	Ballylunan Dispensary, Monday and Friday, 9-10 a.m.
Berkeley (Gloucester)	Dr. D. R. Acheson, Berkeley.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Bovey Tracey (Devon)	Dr. J. A. Andrews, Church Style, Bovey Tracey.	Weekdays, 9.30-10 a.m.
Coupar Angus (Perth)	Dr. H. A. C. Davidson, Morven, Coupar Angus.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Duncannon (Wexford)	Dr. W. J. Anglim, Riverview, Arhurstown.	Arthurstown Dispensary, Wednesday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-12 noon.
Gamlingay (Cambridge)	Dr. H. D. Gasteen, Havelock House, Gamlingay.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Great Wakering (Essex)	Dr. E. D. Fountain, Lyndhurst, Linton Road, Shoeburyness.	Surgery, 4, High Street, Shoeburyness, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Hatfield (Hertford)	Dr. P. M. Brittain, Triangle House, Hatfield.	Surgery, 9-10.30 a.m., Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Kidwelly (Carmarthen)	Dr. J. D. Robertson, Kidwelly.	Surgery, Henblas, Wednesday, 10-11 a.m.
Kirkliston (Linlithgow)	Dr. P. Stewart, Loanhead House, Kirkliston.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Lerwick (Shetland)	Dr. R. M. Yule, Ordgarff, Lerwick.	Surgery, Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Leyland (Lancs.)	Dr. C. M. Willmott, Prospect House, Leyland.	Surgery, Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Long Melford (Suffolk)	Dr. C. Tylor, Long Melford.	Surgery, Wednesday, 9.30-10 a.m.
Maidenhead (Berks)	Dr. R. T. Gilmour, 32, Castle Hill, Maidenhead.	Queen Street Chambers, Queen Street, Maidenhead, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
North Walsham (Norfolk)	Dr. J. D. Hart, Holly House, North Walsham.	Surgery, Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.
Rochdale (Lancs.)	Dr. E. H. Cox, St. Edmund's Terrace, Rochdale.	Surgery, Peel Street, Rochdale, Wednesday, 8.30-9.30 a.m.
Romford (Essex)	Dr. H. A. Upward, Edfu, Romford.	(1) Wednesday, 9-10 a.m. (2) 107, Brentwood Road, Romford, Wednesday, 12 noon-12.30 p.m.
Salford and Stretford (Lancs.)	Dr. E. S. B. Hamilton, 79, Shrewsbury Street, Old Trafford, Manchester.	(1) Wednesday, 9-10 a.m. (2) 11, Blackfriars Street, Manchester, Tuesday, 9-9.45 a.m.
Shelf (Yorks)	Dr. W. R. Thompson, Woodstock, Shelf.	Surgery, Wednesday, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Shrewsbury (Salop)	Dr. H. G. Smith, Public Health Dept., 74, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury.	Public Health Department, 74, Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
South Molton (Devon)	Dr. P. H. Seal, East Street, South Molton.	Weekdays, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Stock (Essex)	Dr. R. Miller, Stock, Ingatstone.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Stourport (Worcester)	Dr. J. Bocket, Oakleigh, Stourport.	Weekdays, 9.30-10.30 a.m.
Uphall (Linlithgow)	Dr. A. Scott, The Firs, Broxburn, West Lothian.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.
* Of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

J. M. Irvine, K.C., to be Chairman, Professor D. H. Macgregor to be Deputy-Chairman, and Mr. F. Popplewell to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

The Trade Board will be known as "The Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Scotland)."

Hat, Cap, and Millinery Trade Board (Ireland).

The Minister of Labour has made Regulations, dated 31st March, 1920, with respect to the Constitution and Proceedings of the Trade Board for the Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade in Ireland, as specified in the Trade Boards (Hat, Cap and Millinery) Order, 1919, namely:—

[The definition of the trade is the same as that above for the Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Scotland).]

The Trade Board has been established in accordance with these Regulations, and consists of:—

- (1) Three appointed members, namely:—
The Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., etc., etc.
Mr. Charles J. Joyce.
Miss Charlotte E. Hamilton.

- (2) Eleven members representing employers and eleven members representing workers in the trade appointed by the Minister of Labour after considering names supplied by such employers and workers, due regard having been paid to the representation of the various branches of the trade and of the various districts in which the trade is carried on.

Provision is made for not more than four additional representative members (half to be representatives of employers and half to be representatives of workers) to serve upon the Trade Board if the Minister of Labour, after giving the Trade Board an opportunity to be heard, thinks additional representation necessary in order to secure the proper representation of any class or classes of employers or workers.

The Minister of Labour has appointed the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, G.B.E., K.C.B., etc., etc., to be Chairman, Mr. Charles J. Joyce to be Deputy-Chairman, and Mr. R. R. Bowman to be Secretary of the Trade Board.

The Trade Board will be known as "The Hat, Cap and Millinery Trade Board (Ireland)."

SPECIAL ORDER.

Toy Trade.

The Minister of Labour has, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon him by Section 1 of the Trade Boards Act, 1918, made a Special Order that from and after the 25th day of March, 1920, the following provisions shall have effect, that is to say:—

Article 1.—The Trade Boards Act, 1909 and 1918, shall apply to the trade specified in the Appendix to this Order.

Article 2.—This Order may be cited as the Trade Boards (Toy) Order, 1920.

The trade specified in the Appendix to the above Notice is as follows:—

The Toy Trade, that is to say, the manufacture of articles intended for the amusement of children, including dolls, metal, wooden or other hard toys, soft toys, books made from textile materials, requisites for table games, bricks, blocks, puzzles, balls, Christmas crackers, Easter eggs, masks or drums,

including also:—

- (a) the assembling of parts of any of the above-mentioned articles;

- (b) the operations of storing, boxing, packing, labelling or despatching, and all other warehousing or packing operations incidental to the manufacture of any of the above-mentioned articles;

but excluding:—

- (a) the manufacture of toys when carried on as a subsidiary branch of work in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of other articles, so as to form a common or interchangeable form of employment for the workers;

- (b) the manufacture of sports requisites;

- (c) the manufacture of toy perambulators, toy wheelbarrows, toy scooters, nursery yachts, toy cycles, toy cars, toy horses, dolls' houses or other similar toys when carried on as a subsidiary branch of work in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of perambulators, invalid carriages or folding push-cars, so as to form a common or interchangeable form of employment for the workers;

- (d) the manufacture from ceramic materials of dolls or dolls' parts, dolls' china, marbles or similar articles when carried on in association with or in conjunction with the manufacture of other pottery;

- (e) the making of articles from sugar confectionery;

- (f) the making of hollow-ware, including boxes and canisters, from sheet iron, sheet steel or tinfoil, or any operations incidental thereto.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING MARCH.

UNITED KINGDOM.

[All the Official Publications (distinguished by Cd., Cmd., H.L., H.C. or S.O. publication) may be purchased through any bookseller or directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses: Imperial House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, and 28, Abingdon Street, London, S.W.1; 37, Peter Street, Manchester; 1, St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff; 23, North Street, Edinburgh; or from E. Ponsonby, Ltd., 118, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Agencies in the British Dominions and Dependencies, the United States of America and other foreign countries of T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, W.C.]

Publications of the Ministry of Labour. (1) Report on Profit-sharing and Labour Co-partnership in the United Kingdom. Intelligence and Statistics Department. [Cmd. 544: price 1s.] (2) Insurance against Unemployment. Compulsory Insurance against Unemployment in Italy. Royal Decree, 19th October, 1919. Translation of text, with explanatory notes. Intelligence and Statistics Department. [Cmd. 613: price 2d.] (3) National Insurance (Unemployment) Acts, 1911 to 1918. Unemployment Fund Accounts, 1917-18. [H.C. 7: price 1d.] (4) Unemployment Insurance Bill, 1920. (a) Memorandum on Financial Clauses. [Cmd. 604: price 1d.] (b) Further Memorandum explanatory of the Financial Provisions. [Cmd. 605: price 1d.]

Labour Administration in America. Notes of Inquiries made by Home Office representatives attending the Washington Labour Conference. [Cmd. 606: price 2d.]

League of Nations. International Labour Conference. Draft Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the Conference at its first Annual Meeting, 29th October-29th November, 1919. [Cmd. 627: price 6d.]

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, No. 8. Figures received up to 10th February, 1920. Production, trade and shipping, price movements, finance, labour. Supreme Economic Council. [S.O. publication: price 1s.]

Report of Commission appointed to examine the conditions of the Iron and Steel Works in Lorraine, in the Occupied Areas of Germany, in Belgium and in France. Ministry of Munitions. [S.O. publication: price 3s.]

Prices and Supplies. Profiteering Act, 1919. Reports by the Standing Committee on the Investigation of Prices. (1) Report on the Standard Boot and Shoe Scheme. [Cmd. 592: price 1d.] (2) Report on Motor Fuel. [Cmd. 597: price 2d.] (3) Report on Metal Bedsteads. [Cmd. 607: price 1d.] (4) Sub-Committee on Drugs and Medicinal Tablets, with special reference to Aspirin and Aspirin Tablets. [Cmd. 635: price 1d.] (5) First Report of the Departmental Committee on the Wholesale Food Markets of London, 23rd February, 1920. Ministry of Food. [Cmd. 634: price 1d.]

Coal Output. Return for week ended 7th February, 1920. [H.C. 28: price 1d.] Returns for weeks ended 3rd and 31st January, 1920, with number of persons employed. [H.C. 33 and 33-1: price 1d. each.]

Agriculture and Fisheries. (1) Agricultural Statistics, Scotland, 1918. Part I. Acreage and Live-Stock Returns. [Cmd. 564: price 3d.] Part II. Returns of Produce of Crops. Board of Agriculture for Scotland. [Cmd. 593: price 2d.] (2) Fisheries in the Great War. Report on Sea Fisheries for the years 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918. [Cmd. 585: price 2s.] (3) Report of Proceedings under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Acts for the years 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918. Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cmd. 497: price 6d.]

Industrial Assurance Companies and Collecting Societies. Report of Departmental Committee (Board of Trade) on the business of. [Cmd. 614: price 4d.] Minutes of Evidence. [Cmd. 618: price 3s.]

Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, 1918. Part A. General Report. [H.C. 139: price 9d.]

Accidents. (1) Street Accidents caused by Vehicles. Return showing the Number of Accidents resulting in Death or Personal Injury during the year 1919. Home Office. [H.C. 40: price 1d.] (2) Report on the circumstances attending the Breaking of a Man-Engine which occurred at the Levant Mine, Pendeen, in the County of Cornwall, on the 20th October, 1919. Home Office. [Cmd. 557: price 9d.]

Housing. (1) Changes in Prices of the Principal Building Materials (London). Revised to February, 1920. [Cmd. 611: price 1d.] (2) Gifts of Land for Housing Purposes. Statement showing the names of donors of sites, &c. [Cmd. 589: price 1d.] (3) Schemes submitted to the Ministry of Health by Local Authorities and Public Utility Societies up to 31st January, 1920. [Cmd. 596: price 1s.]

Report on the Work of the National Maritime Board, 1917-1919. [Cmd. 545: price 4d.]

Colonial Reports—Annual. No. 1024. Jamaica, 1918-19. [Cmd. 508-3: price 2d.] No. 1021. Somaliland, 1918-19. [Cmd. 508-5: price 1d.] No. 1027. Solomon Islands, 1918-19. [Cmd. 508-11: price 1d.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH DOMINIONS.

INDIA.—Publications of the Department of Statistics.—(1) Wheat Prices in India, second half of December, 1919, and first half of January, 1920. (2) Wholesale and Retail (Fortnightly) Prices at 15th and 31st December, 1919, and 15th January, 1920. (3) Supplementary Memorandum on the Wheat Crop of 1919-20. (4) Final General Memorandum on the Ground Nut Crop of 1919-20. (5) Cotton Press Return, Nos. 7, 8 and 9 of 1919-20. (6) Foreign Sea-borne Trade, April-September, December, 1919, and January, 1920. (7) Final General Memorandum on the Rice Crop of 1919-20. (8) Final General Memorandum on the Cotton Crop of 1919-20. (9) Final General Memorandum on the Sugarcane Crop of 1919-20. (10) Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills, November and December, 1919.

CANADA.—(1) The Labour Gazette, February, 1920. Industrial conditions, proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, strikes and lock-outs, wholesale and retail prices, employment in the building trades, 1910-1919, Convention of Alberta Federation of Labour, &c. (2) Monthly Bulletin of Agricultural Statistics, December, 1919. Prices of agricultural produce, crop reports, wool production of Canada, 1915-1919. (3) The Canada Year Book, 1918. Dominion Bureau of Statistics. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.] (4) Saskatchewan. The Public Service Monthly, January and February, 1920. Supply of and demand for labour, coal output, vital statistics, population, Government assistance to farmers in the drought area, &c.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—(1) Report, with an Historical Review, on the Operations of the Department of Labour and Industry during the year 1918. (Including the 22nd Annual Report of Inspectors under the Factories and Shops Act, 1912.) (2) The Industrial Gazette, January, 1920. Prices current in December, employment and unemployment, dislocations in industries, State labour exchanges and private agencies, industrial awards, &c. Department of Labour and Industry. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer.]

VICTORIA.—Forty-first Annual Report on Friendly Societies.—Report of the Government Statist for the year 1918. [Melbourne: A. J. Mullett, Government Printer.]

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—(1) Statistical View of Ninety Years' Progress, 1829 to 1918-19. (2) Statistical Register, 1918-19. Part VI—Industrial Establishments (exclusive of Mines). Part VII—Mineral Statistics and Water Conservation. [Perth: F. W. Simpson, Government Printer.]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Wages Board Determinations. Printing trade, 15th January, 1920; hardware, 15th December, 1919; laundries, 8th January, 1920; carriers and drivers, 21st January, 1920; harbour and river employees, 22nd December, 1919; hardware shop clerks, 15th December, 1919; hookboys, 8th January, 1920; sugar refining, 7th January, 1920; furniture, 4th February, 1920.

QUEENSLAND.—The Industrial Gazette, January, 1920. Industrial awards gazetted in December, list of agreements in force, supply of and demand for labour power, accidents, &c. Department of Labour. [Brisbane: A. J. Cumming, Government Printer.]

NEW ZEALAND.—Monthly Abstract of Statistics, December, 1919. Prices and cost of living, rents, pensions, advances to workers and settlers, &c. [Wellington: Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.]

SOUTH AFRICA.—(1) Quarterly Abstract of Union Statistics, No. 1, January, 1920. Wages, trade unions, disputes, cost of living, rents, wholesale prices, manufacturing industries, &c. Office of Census and Statistics. [Johannesburg: Argus Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd.] (2) The South African Journal of Industries, January, 1920. Labour and industrial conditions in December, mineral output, the promotion of industrial efficiency, &c. Ministry of Mines and Industries. [Pretoria: Government Printing and Stationery Office.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

UNITED STATES.—(a) Federal.—(1) The Monthly Labour Review, January, 1920. The International Labour Conference, cost of living in the United States, wages and hours of labour, employment and unemployment, comparison of Workmen's Compensation laws in the United States, including 1919 legislation. Bureau of Labour Statistics. (2) Publications of the Children's Bureau, United States Department of Labour. (a) Administration of Child Labour Laws. Part 3, Employment—Certificate System, Maryland. (b) Maternity and Infant Care in two rural counties in Wisconsin. (c) Infant Mortality. Results of a field study in Saginaw (Mich.), based on births in one year. (d) Seventh Annual Report of the Chief Children's Bureau, year ended 30th June, 1919.

(3) Thirtieth Annual Report on the Statistics of Railways in the United States, 1916. Number of employees, average hourly wages, &c. Interstate Commerce Commission. (4) Financial Statistics of Cities having a population of over 30,000, 1918. (5) Financial Statistics of States, 1918. (6) Municipal Markets in Cities having a population of over 30,000, 1918. Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce. (7) Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States for the six months, July to December, 1918, and the calendar year 1918. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. (8) United States Fuel Administration. Report of the Engineers' Committee, 1918-1919. Cost of production and cost of coal, charts, &c. (9) Boots and Shoes, Leather, and Supplies in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay. Herman G. Brock, Trade Commissioner, Department of Commerce. [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

(b) State.—New York. The Labour Market Bulletin, December, 1919. Detailed report upon the state of employment in December.

WASHINGTON STATE. Safety Codes, Nos. 1 and 2. (1) General Safety Standards. (2) Educational Safety Standards. State Safety Board. [Olympia: Frank M. Lamborn, Public Printer.]

FRANCE.—Bulletin Mensuel de l'Office de Renseignements Agricoles, October, 1918-August, 1919. (Monthly Journal of the Agricultural Information Bureau.) Decrees, laws, reports, &c., affecting agriculture. Ministry of Agriculture. [Paris.]

GERMANY.—(1) Reichs-Arbeitsblatt, 24th December, 1919. (Journal of the German Labour Department.) Employment generally in 1919, also in December; collective agreements at end of 1918; law as to allowances to unemployed. Federal Statistical Office. [Berlin: Carl Heymann.] (2) Vierteljahrshefte zur Statistik des Deutschen Reichs, 1919. Part III. (Quarterly Journal of German Statistics.) Maximum food prices in April, 1919; production of coal, iron, &c., in 1916. Federal Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht.]

BELGIUM.—(1) Revue du Travail, 15th and 29th February. (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department.) Employment in January, 1920; insurance against labour accidents, amendment of regulations; labour legislation during January; labour disputes in January; wages in the printing, &c., trades; retail prices in April, 1914, and January, 1920. (2) La Situation des Industries Belges en December, 1919. Report on the condition of various industries in December, 1919. (3) Recensement de l'Industrie et du Commerce, 31st December, 1910, Vol. VII. Census of industries and commerce. Ministry of Labour, Industry and Supplies. [Brussels: J. Lebegue & Co.]

HOLLAND.—(1) Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek, 31st January, 1920. (Journal of the Central Statistical Bureau.) Review of labour conditions in 1919; unemployment in October; labour disputes during 1919; collective agreements in 1919; wholesale prices in December; retail prices in January, 1920. (2) Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland, No. 283. Labour disputes in Holland in 1918. (3) Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland, No. 287, February, 1920. Crimineele Statistiek over het jaar 1916. Criminal statistics for 1916. Central Statistical Bureau. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante.]

AUSTRIA.—Amtliche Nachrichten des Osterreichischen Staatsamtes für Soziale Verwaltung, Nos. 2, 3 and 4, 1920. (Journal of the Austrian Office for Social Affairs.) Law of 18th December, 1919, concerning arbitration and collective

labour agreements, decrees concerning conciliation boards, inspection of children in industry, &c.; bills relating to old age pensions and unemployment relief. [Vienna.]

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.—Cheskoslovensky Statisticky Vykaznik, January, 1920. (Journal of the State Statistical Office.) Text of law of 28th January, 1919, establishing a State Statistical Council and Office. [Prague.]

NORWAY.—(1) Sociale Meddelelser, No. 2, 1920. Retail prices in December, 1919; employment exchanges report for December; hours of labour in the building and stone-cutting trades. Department for Social Affairs. [Christiania: Steen'cke Forlag.] (2) Innstilling till Lov om Bedrøftersaad i Industrielle Virksomheter fra Mindretallet i Arbeiderkommisjonen av 1918. (Supplement as above.) Draft Bill on Works Councils, Minority Report. (a) Lønninger, 1919. Report on wages in certain trades, 1914-19. (b) Private Aktiebanks, 1918. Statistics of Private Joint Stock Banks in 1918. (c) Norges Kommunale Finanser i Regnskapsaret, 1915-16. Municipal Finance during 1915-16. (d) Folkemengdens Begaegelse, 1916. Movement of the population in 1916. (e) Forsikringselskaper, 1917. Statistics of Insurance Companies, 1917. (f) Norges Telegrafvaesen, 1917-18. Statistics of telegraphs and telephones, 1917-18. (g) Faengselsstyrelsens Aarbok, 1916. Report of Prison Administration, 1916. Central Statistical Bureau. (3) Meddelelser fra det Statistiske Centralbyra, No. 1, 1920. (Journal of the Norwegian Central Statistical Bureau.) Retail prices in November and December, and cost of living in October, November and December. (4) Norges Offentlige Arbeidsformidling og de av Staten Anerkjente Arbeidsledighetskasser. Report on the work of employment exchanges and recognised unemployment funds in 1918-19. [Christiania: H. H. Aschehoug & Co.]

SWEDEN.—Sociala Meddelanden, No. 2, 1920. (Journal of the Swedish Department for Social Affairs.) Wages of agricultural workers in 1919-20; unemployment among organised workers, October-December, 1919; cost of living in January, 1920. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Soner.]

DENMARK.—Statistiske Efterretninger, 15th and 20th March, 1920. (Journal of the Danish Statistical Department.) Unemployment in February. [Copenhagen: Nordisk Forlag.]

FINLAND.—Social Tidskrift, Nos. 5 and 6, 1918. (Journal of the Finnish Department for Social Affairs.) Retail prices during third quarter of 1919; text of law of 24th October, 1919, on working conditions and hours of labour in shops, offices and warehouses. Department for Social Affairs. [Helsingfors.]

ICELAND.—(1) Fiskiskyslar og Hlunninda arid 1917. Statistics of the fishing industry and seal-hunting for 1917. (2) Hagtithindi, Nos. 6 and 7, November and December, 1919. (Journal of the Icelandic Statistical Department.) Retail prices at Reykjavik in October, 1919. Icelandic Statistical Bureau. [Reykjavik.]

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—(1) Boletin del Departamento Nacional del Trabajo, January and February, 1920. (Journal of the National Labour Department.) (2) Cronica Mensual del Departamento Nacional del Trabajo, January, 1920. [Buenos Aires.]

MEXICO.—Gaceta Mensual del Departamento del Trabajo, January, 1920. (Journal of the Mexican Department of Labour.) Labour accidents in 1919; retail prices in Federal District. [Mexico City.]

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, MARCH, 1920.

ADMIRALTY.
(CIVIL ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF'S DEPARTMENT.)
Cement for Pembroke Docks (450 tons), Portsmouth, Rosyth and Rosyth Works: Director of Building Materials Supply, London, S.W.—Oil Fuel Tanks: (2 for Jamaica), Meehan & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow; (6 for Malta), Whessoe Foundry Co., Ltd., Darlington.—Oil Fuel Installation: 2 Oil Tanks (for Port Edgar), The Motherwell Bridge Co., Ltd., Motherwell, Glasgow.

ADMIRALTY
(CONTRACT AND PURCHASE DEPT.)
Badges: Day, E. (St. Albans), Ltd., St. Albans; Elsmere, Madame, Ltd., London; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London; Kenning, G. & Son, London; Stevenson, R., London; Simpson, S., Preston; Stokoe & Co., London; Virgo, R. & Co., London.—Barrels (Elm): Ryan, W. & Co., Bromley-by-Bow, E.—Blankets: Berry, J. & Sons, Ltd., Ashburton, Devon; Horsfall, J., & Sons, (Greetland), Ltd., Greetland; Priestley Bros., Halifax.—Boots, Black Leather: Nichols, C. E., Ltd., Raunds; St. Crispin Productive Society, Ltd., Raunds; Smith, O., Raunds; Tebbutt & Hall Bros., Ltd., Raunds.—Boot Laces, Cotton: Faire Bros. & Co., Ltd., Leicester.—Bolts and Nuts, Wrought Iron and Steel: Stones Bros., Ltd., West Bromwich.—Buttons, Gilt: Dowler, W., & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Firmin & Sons, Ltd., London; Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham.—Bunting: Morton & Holcroft, Halifax.—Canvas: Baxter Bros. & Co., Ltd., Dundee; Boase Spinning Co., Ltd., Dundee; Corsary, D., & Sons, Ltd., Arbroath; Edinburgh Roperie, etc., Co., Ltd., Leith; Richards Bros., Ltd., Aberdeen; Webster, F., & Sons, Arbroath.—Caps,

Skins: Kirkham, C., & Son, Nottingham; Turney, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Stourbridge.—Cocks, Gun Metal, Steam: Baines, W. N., & Co., Ltd., Rotherham; Blakeborough, J., & Sons, Ltd., Brighouse; Brotherhood, P., Ltd., Peterborough; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., Luton; Laing, Sir J., & Sons, Ltd., Sunderland; Smith Bros. & Co. (Hyson), Ltd., Nottingham; Smith, S., & Sons (Nottingham), Ltd., Nottingham.—Collars, Soft, White: Jamieson, W. J., & Co., London.—Cloth, Blue: Banks, J., & Sons, Pudsey; Colbeck Bros., Ltd., Wakefield; Hainsworth, A. W., & Sons, Farsley; Hainsworth, J., & Sons, Farsley; Halliday, J., & Co., Pudsey; Huggan, W. & T., Bramley.—Drawers, Brown Cotton: Atkins Bros., Hinchley; Braund, G., Ltd., Loughborough; Frasers, F., & Co., Kilmarnock; Morley, J. & R., Ltd., London; Simpkin, Son, & Emery, Hinchley.—Drums, Steel: Berger, L., & Sons, Ltd., Homerton; Noakes, B., & Co., Bermondsey, S.E.—Enamelled Ware (Basins): Eveson Bros., Ltd., Wollescote, Nr. Stourbridge; Griffiths & Browett, Ltd., Birmingham; Sankey, J., & Sons, Ltd., Bilston.—Electric Lighting, Heating and Power Wiring: Taylor, G. E., Co., Ltd., London.—Electric Wiring, Internal: Fairie, T., & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—Equipments, Gauges, etc., for dealing with Brown Curtis Turbine Blading: Brown, J., & Co., Ltd., Clydebank.—Electrodes: The Quasi-Arc Co., Ltd., London.—Feed Pump.—Rees Roturbo Manufacturing Co., Wolverhampton.—Hides and Leather Goods: Angus, G., & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Baker, J. & F. J., & Co., Ltd., Colyton, Devon; Conolly Bros. (Carriers), Ltd., London; Gallsworthy, R., & Sons, Lincoln; Fleming, Birkby, & Goodall, Ltd., Halifax; Nobes & Hunt, London; Norris, S. E., Co., London; Tullis, J., & Son, Ltd., Glasgow.—Hides, Upholstering, etc.: Conolly Bros. (Carriers), Ltd., London.

Hull Work: Baird Bros., Ltd., North Shields.—**Lanyards, Knife:** Coombs, W., Devonport; Edwards, W., & Son, Bridport.—**Locks:** Butler, J., & Co., Wolverhampton; Lowe & Fletcher, Willenhall; Marston, A., & Co., Willenhall; Mattox, J., & Sons, Wednesfield; Spink, J., & Son, Wolverhampton; Walsall Locks & Cart Gear, Ltd., Walsall.—**Nails:** Bennie, D., & Sons, Glasgow; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; The Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Over-head Hand Travellers:** Morris, H., Ltd., Loughborough.—**Platinum Wire and Sheets:** Johnson, Matthey, & Co., Ltd., London.—**Ribbons, Hat:** Kenning, G., & Son, London; Stevens, T. (Coventry), Ltd., Coventry.—**Roots, Blower:** Startevant Engineering Co., Ltd., London.—**Rollers, etc., for Spreading Tables:** Fairbairn, Lawson, Coombe, Barbour, Ltd., Leeds.—**Serge, Blue:** Berry, J., & Sons, Ashburton, Devon; Clay, J., & Co., Luddenden Foot; Churchward, J., & Sons, Ltd., Buckfastleigh, Devon; Fox Bros., Wellington, Somerset; Gaunt, R., & Sons, Ltd., Farsley; Hainsworth, A. W., & Sons, Farsley; Hamlyn Bros., Buckfastleigh, Devon; Hoyle, J., & Sons, Longwood; Shaw, J., & Sons, Halifax; Whitworth, J., Ltd., Luddenden Foot.—**Screws:** Butler & Spragg, Ltd., Birmingham; Cox, H., & Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Eaves, T., Ltd., Birmingham; Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham; Stokes, A., & Co., Birmingham.—**Steam Superheaters for Boilers:** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London.—**Shirts, White, Soft:** Jamieson, W. J., & Co., Ltd.—**Shoes, Black, Leather:** Adams Bros., Raunds.—**Threads:** Campbell, H., & Co., Ltd., Belfast.—**Thermometers:** Cossor, A. C., & Son, London; Reynolds, T. A., & Co., London; Thompson, T. E., & Co., Ltd., London.—**Tin and Japanned Wares:** Blood, T. G., Birmingham; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham; Froggatt & Tyler, Ltd., Birmingham; Griffiths & Brewett, Birmingham.—**Torch Batteries:** British Ever Ready Co., Ltd., London.—**Water Tube Boilers:** Babcock & Wilcox, Ltd., London.—**Wire Work:** Christie, G., Ltd., Glasgow; Dickson, J. London; Greening, N. & Sons, Ltd., Warrington; James, A. A., Ltd., West Bromwich; Nicholls, J., & Son, Ltd., Birmingham; Patent Process Wire Weaving Co., Glasgow; Potter, F. W., & Co., London; Riddell, W., & Co., Glasgow; Rowat, A., & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; The Tower Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Worcester.—**Worsted:** Ambler, T., & Son, Wakefield; Baldwin, J. J., & Partners, Ltd., London.

WAR OFFICE.

Works Services: Dismantling Buildings, Kings Lynn: Rose, Downs & Thompson, Ltd., Hull.—**Maintenance of W.D. Buildings:** Buttevant and Mallow; T. Kelleher, Cork. Carlisle: J. C. Vaughan & Sons, Hereford. Curragh: J. Dowling & Co., Dublin. Melton Mowbray: F. D. Goodwin, Melton Mowbray. Lincoln: C. A. Fairchild, Lincoln. Omagh: J. McGrath, Omagh. Pontefract: J. W. Maw & Sons, York. Selby: J. Backhouse, Junr., Selby. Youghal: M. Murray & Sons, Youghal.

MINISTRY OF MUNITIONS.

Acetylene Generators: Portable Furnaces & Patents, Ltd., Carrington, Nottingham.—**Axle Boxes:** Robert Hyde & Sons, Ltd., Chesterfield; Thomas Summerson & Sons, Ltd., Darlington.—**Axle Forgings, unmachined:** Cammell, Laird & Co., Ltd., Sheffield; Thomas Firth & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Samuel Fox & Co., Ltd., Stockbridge Works, near Sheffield; Taylor Bros. & Co., Ltd., Hunslet, Leeds.—**Badges, Silver:** S. J. Rose, London, W.C.—**Belting, Canvas:** Witty & Wyatt, London, E.C.—**Blackening Brushes:** A. W. Knowles, Dartford; Alex. Reid & Sons, London, E.; The South London Brush Co., London, S.E.; Titterton & Howard, London, W.; W. H. Vowles & Sons, Ltd., Stone House, Gloucester; S. D. Warren & Co., London, N.W.—**Blazers:** Clark & Son, London.—**Boots:** The Regulation Boot Co., Ltd., Raunds; Unity Co-operative Society, Ltd., Ringstead, Thrapston.—**Cab Canopies, Collapsible:** Rotax Motor Accessories, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Carburettors (White & Poppe):** W. H. M. Burgess, London, W.—**Clocks, Watchmen's:** Buck & Hickman, London, E.—**Clothing, Miscellaneous:** Glanfield & Sons, Ltd., London, E.; J. & B. Pearce & Co., London, E.; Robinson & Cleaver, London.—**Composition, Moulding:** George Longden & Sons, Sheffield.—**Copper Wire:** T. Bolton & Sons, London, E.C.; The India Rubber, Gutta Percha & Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., London, E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., London, E.—**Cordage:** Frost Bros., Ltd., London, E.—**Driers, Ground in Oil:** Colthurst & Harding, London, E.—**Dyeing, Steaming and Pressing Clothing:** The French Cleaning & Dyeing Co., Ltd., Southgate, N.; Rogers & Cook, Ltd., London.—**Economiser, Repairs and Supply and Erection of New Parts:** Arthur Lowcock, Ltd., Shrewsbury.—**Electric Batteries:** Accumulators of Woking, Ltd., Woking; Tudor Accumulator Co., London, S.W.—**Electrical Equipment:** Edison Swan Electric Co., Ponders End, Middlesex.—**Electric Motors:** Bruce Peebles, Ltd., Edinburgh; General Electric Co., London, E.C.; J. H. Holmes & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Metropolitan Vickers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Gold Wings:** Hobson & Sons (London), Ltd., London, W.—**Hose Pipes, Canvas:** F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hydraulic Tyre Press:** R. Middleton, Leeds.—**Insulators:** Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Insulated Wire:** G. E. Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Kettles, Tea:** J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Bilston, Staffs.—**Lamps, Electric:** British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Linoleum:** Barry, Ostlers & Shepherd, Ltd., Kirkealdy.—**Motor Spares:** A.E.C., Ltd., London, E.; Albion Motor Car Co., Ltd., London, W.; Associated Equipment Co., Ltd., London, E.; Brampton Bros., Birmingham; Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester; Daimler & Co., Coventry; Drewry Car Co., London, E.C.; F. Ewbank Leefe, London, E.C.; Gastons Ltd., London, W.; Phelon & Moore Ltd., Cleckheaton;

Sunbeam Motor Car Co. Ltd., Wolverhampton; Triumph Cycle Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Motor Boat Spares:** Bergius Launch & Engineering Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Gastons Ltd., London, W.—**Naphthalene:** Burt, Boulton & Haywood, London, E.C.—**Motor Chains:** Coventry Chain Co., Ltd., Coventry.—**Oil, Lubricating:** Bowring Petroleum Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Paint, Colthurst & Harding Ltd., London, E.C.—Paint, Ground in Oil:** Lewis Berger & Sons, Homerton, E.; Burrell & Co., Millwall; Cookson & Co., London, E.C.; A. Fergusson & Co., Ltd., Glasgow; Henry Grace & Co., Millwall; John Hare, Bristol; Locke, Blackett & Co., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Locke, Lancaster & W. W. & R. Johnson & Son, Ltd., London, E.; Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington; Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.—**Pneumatic Covers:** Associated Rubber Manufacturers, London, W.; Beldam Tyre Co., Brentford; Burnett Motor Tyre Co., Trowbridge; Henley's Tyre & Rubber Co., Gravesend.—**Press, Scrap Bundling:** Rice & Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Pump Installation:** Variable Pumps & Motors, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Rope, Galvanised Steel:** Rylands Bros., Warrington.—**Saucepans:** Beech, Hill & Co. Ltd., West Bromwich; T. & C. Clarke, Wolverhampton; A. Kenrick & Sons, Birmingham; J. & J. Siddons Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Seats, Saddle:** Mason & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Side Lamps:** H. Miller & Co., Birmingham.—**Spirit Levels:** B. J. Hall, London, S.W.—**Sponge Cloth:** Charles Austin & Sons, Ltd., Manchester; Wm. Wild, Ltd., Heywood.—**Spring Steel:** Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Sheffield.—**Stamping Medals & Stars:** Wright & Son, Edgware.—**Steel, Bar:** J. Brown & Co. Ltd., Sheffield; J. F. Melling, London, S.W.; Sanderson Bros. & Newbould, Sheffield.—**Steel Plates:** D. Colville & Sons Ltd., Motherwell; South Durham Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Stockton-on-Tees.—**Steel, Round:** S. H. Burrows & Sons, Ltd., Sheffield; Coghlan Steel & Iron Co., Ltd., Leeds.—**Table Glass:** Stevens & Williams, Stourbridge.—**Tools for Lathes:** Charles Churchill & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Transformers, Rotary:** Newton Bros. (Derby), Ltd., Derby.—**Vacuum Apparatus (for emptying cesspools):** Merryweather & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**White Lead:** Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.

INDIA OFFICE: STORES DEPARTMENT.

Acids: Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., London, E.; Johnson & Sons, Manufacturing Chemists, London, E.C.; W. J. Bush & Co., Ltd., London, N.E.—**Axles:** Vickers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Balances:** G. Salter & Co., Ltd., West Bromwich.—**Balsam:** Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., London, E.—**Belting:** R. & J. Dick, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Bicycle Components:** B.S.A. Cycles, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Bismuthi Carbonas:** T. Tyrer & Co., Ltd., London, E.—**Boxes, Strawboard:** Townson & Mercer, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Casings, Pump:** W. Simons & Co., Ltd., Renfrew.—**Cells:** Chloride Electrical Storage Co., London, S.W.—**Copper, Sheet:** Birmingham Battery & Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Copper, Strip:** The Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley.—**Core, Gutta Percha:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Couplers:** A.B.C. Couplers, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Cresol:** Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Co., London, E.C.; Newton Chambers & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Crucibles:** The Morgan Crucible Co., London, S.W.—**Cutters:** J. Elsworth & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.—**Cutting Compound:** Dussek Bros. & Co., London, S.E.—**Dynamo:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Engines:** Marshall Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.—**Engine Parts:** Whiting, Ltd., London, N.W.—**Fans:** J. Stone & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.—**Forks, &c.:** W. Hunt & Sons, The Brades, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Generator:** The Lancashire Dynamo & Motor Co., Manchester.—**Hexamine:** Evans Sons, Lescher & Webb, London, E.C.; T. W. Berk & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Hose, I.R.:** I.R. G.P. & Telegraph Works Co., Silvertown.—**Ink:** H. C. Stephens, London, E.C.—**Lead, Red:** Walkers, Parker & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; London Lead Oxide Co., Ltd., Gravesend.—**Lead, White:** Wm. Reid & Johnson, London, E.C.; Locke, Lancaster, & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Locke, Lancaster, & W. W. & R. Johnson & Sons, London, E.C.; R. Gay & Son, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Paper, Cloth Backed:** J. Blackwell & Sons, Manchester.—**Pins, Iron:** Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, London, E.C.—**Pipes:** Stanton Ironworks Co., Ltd., Stanton.—**Plant Cressoting:** J. & J. Horsfield, Ltd., Dewsbury.—**Ploughs:** J. Wallace & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Pump:** Ruston & Hornsby, Ltd., Lincoln.—**Rails:** Darlington Rolling Mills Co., London, E.C.—**Rollers:** Aveling & Porter, Ltd., Rochester; Marshall Sons & Co., Ltd., Gainsborough.—**Radio-Quilimeter:** Newton & Wright, Ltd., London, W.—**Shot, Chilled:** Bramley Engineering Co., Ltd., Bramley.—**Silver Nitrate:** Johnson & Sons (Manufacturing Chemists), Ltd., London, E.C.—**Steel:** J. Lysaght, Ltd., London, E.C.; Wolverhampton Steel & Iron Co., London, S.W.—**Stocks and Dies:** Pickford & Co., Ltd., Sheffield.—**Switchboards:** Erskine, Heap & Co., Manchester; Metropolitan Vickers Elec. Export Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Syringes:** A. E. Braid & Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Tablets:** Parke, Davis & Co., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Tapes, Measuring:** J. Rabone & Sons, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Theodolites:** Troughton, Simms, Ltd., Charlton.—**Train Lighting Equipment:** J. Stone & Co., London, S.E.—**Tubes, Boring:** J. Stone & Co., London, S.E.—**Tubes, Stay:** Stewart & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Tubes, Stay:** Stewart & Lloyds, Ltd., Glasgow.—**Type:** H. W. Caslon & Co., Ltd., London,

E.C.; J. Haddon & Co., London, E.C.—**Varnish:** R. Ingham, Clark & Co., Ltd., London, E.; R. Keasley & Co., Ltd., Ripon.—**Wheels and Axles:** Newlay Wheel Co., Ltd., Leeds; W. Beardmore & Co., Ltd., Glasgow.—**Winches:** Ransomes & Rapier, Ltd., London, S.W.—**Wire:** The Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd., Hadley; Elliotts Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham; Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd., Middlesbrough; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., London, W.C.; T. Bolton & Sons, Ltd., London, E.C.; Hall's Barton Ropery Co., Ltd., Hull.—**Zinc Plates:** A. W. Penrose & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.

POST OFFICE.

Apparatus, Telegraphic: Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston; International Electric Co., Ltd., Tottenham, N.17; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., Cricklewood, N.W.2; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich; T. E. Thompson & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.; Whitfield Aviation, Ltd., Richmond.—**Apparatus, Telephonic:** Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Liverpool; British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Beeston; Edison Swan Electric Co., Ltd., Ponders End, Middlesex; General Electric Co., Ltd., Hammersmith; International Electric Co., Ltd., London, N.; Charles Peacock & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Peel Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Manchester; Phoenix Telephone & Electric Works, Ltd., London, N.W.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.; Sterling Telephone & Electric Co., Ltd., Dagenham; Western Electric Co., Ltd., North Woolwich, E.—**Boots:** Adams Bros., Raunds, Wellingborough; J. Horrell & Son, Raunds, Wellingborough; Stephen Walker, Walgrave, Northants.—**Bits, Soldering:** J. S. Rock & Sons, Cradley, Staffs.—**Brackets:** Walls, Ltd., Birmingham.—**Cable, Telegraphic & Telephonic:** British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Helsby; Hackbridge Cable Co., Ltd., North Hackbridge; W. T. Henley's Telegraph Works Co., Ltd., North Woolwich; Hooper's Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., London, E.; New Gutta Percha Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich.—**Candles:** J. C. & J. Field, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Cars, Side:** Mills Fulford, Ltd., Coventry.—**Chains, Cycle, &c.:** Brampton Bros., Ltd., Birmingham.—**Clips, Earth:** E. Showell & Sons, Starchley, Birmingham.—**Cotton Drill:** Manchester Khaki Co., Ltd., Manchester; R. & J. Partington, Ltd., Manchester.—**Finals, Pole:** H. W. Workman, Woodchester, Stroud.—**Insulators:** J. Bourne & Son, Ltd., Denby, Derbyshire; Bullers, Ltd., Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent; Doulton & Co., Ltd., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent; Litholite Insulators, Ltd., London, E.; Taylor, Tunnicliffe & Co., Ltd., Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent.—**Irons, Terminal:** D. Willelts, Ltd., Cradley Heath, Staffs.—**Kiosks, Concrete:** D. G. Somerville & Co., Ltd., Charlton.—**Material, Reinforcing:** British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co., Ltd., Manchester.—**Paint, White:** Foster, Mason & Harvey, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Paper, Baudot Morse and Wheatstone:** Waterlow & Sons, Ltd., Old Ford and Peckham Grove, S.E.—**Plats, Earth:** T. & W. Farmiloe, Ltd., Nine Elms.—**Plugs, Cable, Distribution:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich S.E.—**Rods, Stay:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Rods, Zinc:** Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.—**Sheets, Canvas:** Wm. Ritchie & Son, London, E.C.—**Spikes, Insulator:** Thomas Parish & Son, Halesowen.—**Spindles:** Bullers, Ltd., Tipton.—**Tents:** J. Smith & Co. (London, E.), Ltd., London, E.—**Twill:** Hugh Spencer & Co., Manchester.—**Wallboards:** R. & J. Irving, Glasgow.—**Washing &c., Mail Bags:** Quatock Sanitary Laundry, Ltd., London, S.E.—**Waste, Cotton:** A. Smart & Sons, Ltd., Rockcliffe Mills, Collyhurst, Manchester.—**Wax, Sealing:** Blackwood & Co., Ltd., London, E.C.—**Wire, Bronze:** Thomas Bolton & Sons, Ltd., Oakamoor; British Insulated & Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott.—**Wire, Copper, E. and S.S.C.:** London Electric Wire Co. & Smiths, Ltd., Leyton.—**Wire, E.L. Flexible Twin, &c.:** Macintosh Cable Co., Ltd., Derby.—**Wire, Strand, G.I.:** Rylands Bros., Ltd., Warrington; Whitecross Co., Ltd., Warrington.—**Wire, V.I.R.:** Hooper's Telegraph & India Rubber Works, Ltd., Millwall Docks.—**Circulating Pump:** Post Office Central Power Station, The Rees Roturbo Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Laying Conduits:** Spalding, Hodge Bros. (Contractors), Ltd., Birmingham; Hop-Victoria, J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Park-Ealing, J. Mowlem & Co., Ltd., London, S.W.; Hop-Lee Green Junction, R. M. Parkinson, Bedford; Greenwich-East Junction, W. H. Wheeler & Co., Ltd., London, S.E.; Willesden (Walm Lane), O. C. Summers, London, N.; London-Southampton (Section I), Hardy & Co., Woking; London-Southampton (Section II), R. Armistead, Charlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester; London-Bristol-Newport (South Midland Section I), J. F. Hodge & Co., Rednal, near Birmingham; Southall, G. J. Anderson, London, E.; Glasgow, R. & C. Murray, Paisley.—**Provision of Lift Gates and Locks:** Birmingham (Fordrough Lane Depot), Etehells, Congdon & Muir, Ltd., Ancoats, Manchester.—**Telephone Exchange Equipment:** Malvern, Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.2; Cardiff, Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.2; Ilkley, Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.; Birmingham (South), Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Lancs; Willesden, Peel-Conner Telephone Works, Ltd., Salford, Lancs; Guildford, The British L. M. Ericsson Manufacturing Co., Ltd., London, W.C.—**Conveyance of Mails:** Bevan Brothers, Swansea; F. D. Troughton, Bromley, Kent.

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